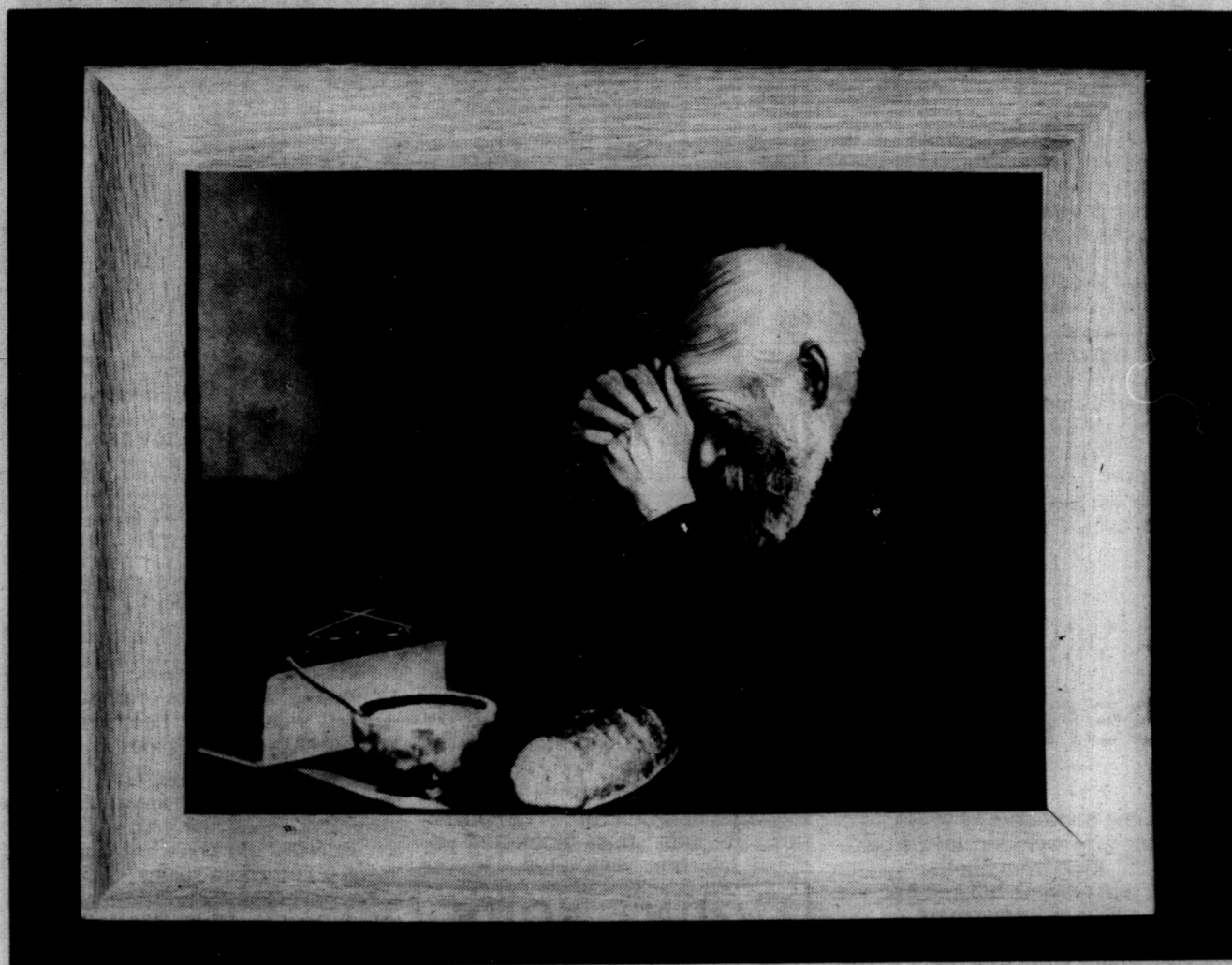


The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, November 21, 1991

Published Since 1877



"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving"

GRAND RAPIDS, Minn. — This photograph, entitled "Grace," won world-wide fame for Eric Enstrom, Grand Rapids, Minn., photographer who died at the age of 92. Millions of reproductions have been made of the photo, taken in 1918

when Enstrom asked a peddler to pose for him. In 1957, he sold the copyright to Augsburg Publishing House, a Lutheran firm. Augsburg sold 500,000 prints within 11 years. (RNS photo)

Give thanks in ALL things!

By Candy Anderson

"Everything is WONDERFUL at Disneyworld!" Brecken tugged on my sleeve, and I turned expectant to experience her enthusiasm. Instead, I heard those words which pierce the heart and shorten the sleep of every mother. "Mama, my ear hurts."

"It will quit in a minute." Who was I kidding? My words were preposterous and I knew it. I was keenly aware of the inevitable. We were visitors in the Magic Kingdom, but only the magic of Amoxil would take care of Brecken's ear.

I would like to report, upon reflection, that I was cheerful, optimistic, patient, and understanding. But that is not true.

We boarded the shuttle bus destined for our motel. I was not too surprised that we were its only occupants. Brecken put her head in my lap, and though I gently patted her on the back, inside I was all but gentle.

I was frustrated and exasperated. I was disgusted and disappointed.

Curious as to the delay in departure, I looked up to see what other circumstances could result in a motel-return like my own. It was a mother and daughter boarding the bus — like us, but not like us at all. Her daughter looked to be in early teenage years. The girl was mentally handicapped, physically handicapped as well. Both their movements to a seat were slow and steady. I also noticed how the girl's steps were without complete control and how she depended heavily on her mother's assistance.

In that moment, the message of Christ to me could have been no clearer if I had physically encountered him and audibly heard his words: "Give thanks in all things."

The lump in my throat was only out-sized by the lump in my heart. My soul's conviction was so great that I dared not even gaze down at the still and perfect form of my own child, lest I come apart.

"Oh, dear Jesus," was my heart's reply. "Thank you. Thank you for earaches and inconveniences. I will praise you and give thanks in all things."

The girl fell asleep moments after the bus's departure. Leaning heavily against her mother and napping as if in her own bed, the girl's weight must have been burdensome. However, the countenance of the mother's face only reflected a heart quite different than had been my own. I'm sure her day had been much more tiring and difficult than mine. I'm sure her day had demanded much more patience, optimism, and understanding. And yet her day effectively influenced my life forever and she remained unaware.

When the bus stopped, I was not at all surprised to see this loving mom carry her daughter, still asleep, down the steps of the bus and toward the motel room — just as easily as if she were handling an infant.

An encounter by chance, you say? I don't think so. Jesus took on earache and an inconvenience and wrote an indelible message in the very core of this mom's heart: "Give thanks in all things!"

Candy Anderson of Clinton is a homemaker and mother of Brecken, 8-1/2, and Brennan, 4. Her husband, Ken, is pastor of Parkway Church, Jackson. Brecken was 6 at the time of this story.

Dying missionary gives last gift to foreign missions

By Robert O'Brien & Irma Duke

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — For a few days before Les Watson died, Keith Parks wore two wedding bands.

One symbolizes Parks' commitment to his own marriage. The other symbolizes Watson's lifelong commitment to foreign missions — and his last gift to it before he died of cancer Nov. 10 in Richmond, Va.

Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board, found the 74-year-old retired missionary to Japan asleep during a Nov. 5 visit to Watson's hospital room, where he lay expecting to die soon.

Parks urged Watson's family not to wake him.

"He wants us to wake him," replied Watson's wife of 45 years, Hazel. "He has something he wants to give you." Watson awoke slowly as she bent close to tell him Parks and his wife, Helen Jean, were there.

"Les pulled his hands out from under the sheet and started trying to take his ring off," Parks said. "He was

weak and his daughter had to help him.

"He gave it to me and whispered, 'This is for the Lottie Moon Offering,'" Parks told Foreign Mission Board staff during a chapel meeting. The Lottie Moon offering is the annual Christmas offering given by Southern Baptists to foreign missions.

Overcome with emotion, Parks could not continue his account. But as he reflected later, he called it "one of most moving moments Helen Jean and I have ever had."

As he spoke, Parks removed the extra wedding band, now housed in the board's vault. He turned it reverently in his fingertips as he pondered the significance of the simple band of gold, inscribed with the Watsons' initials and Psalms 34:3.

"O magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt his name together," reads the Scripture verse, which also is inscribed in Mrs. Watson's wedding ring.

"His gift is symbolic of Les and characteristic of his spirit and attitude, that his dying thoughts would be on giving to missions," said Parks. And, he said, it symbolizes a spirit of sacrifice more valuable than the money it will add to the offering to support 3,900 missionaries in 121 countries.

Colleagues who knew Watson during his 35-year career weren't surprised that he would continue thinking of missions even as he lay dying.

"He was the kind of missionary who would sit up all night on the train in Japan because he didn't want to pay mission money for a sleeper," one said.

Watson and his wife, the former Hazel Tunstead, were appointed as missionaries to Japan in 1950. They served there until 1982, when they moved to Richmond to work as cur-

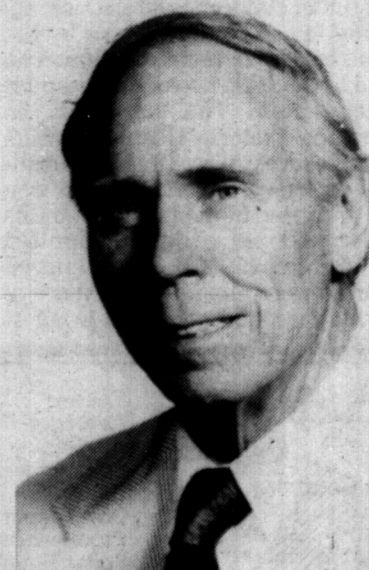
riculum research consultants in the Foreign Mission Board's missionary orientation program. They retired in 1986.

The Watsons were the first Southern Baptist missionaries to reside in the Miyazaki Prefecture of Japan.

"Les had the virtue of patience to a degree not often found in missionaries. He was kind and considerate to his Japanese brethren, never assuming a superior stance. No missionary was more loved and appreciated by the Japanese than Les Watson."

The Watsons helped establish five new churches and numerous preaching points. From 1969-72, they worked with five churches and their pastors in Kanagawa Prefecture and then moved to the Shibuya section of Tokyo, where they worked with two churches.

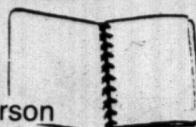
O'Brien and Duke write for FMB.



Les Watson

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson



The 156th in history

What's the best word to describe the convention? Inspiring, cooperative, a spirit of harmony, and continuing the task? All of them would be true.

"Little drops of water
Little grains of sand,
Make the mighty ocean
And the pleasant land." (Carney)

It all came together to remind us of our heritage and our hope. Eddie Hamilton, convention president, presided with fairness and spoke with conviction. Hundreds of people served as ushers, choir members, committee members, speakers, etc. The small drops of water can soon form the mighty wave.

The mighty wave is also made up of Cooperative Program dollars coming together from our churches. These dollars are translated into service across Mississippi, our nation, and in 120 other countries. The convention

did not increase the Cooperative Program amount by the customary one-half percent to causes outside the state, but dollar-wise, the amount was increased.

During one session a spontaneous prayer time erupted as dozens of people shared requests. Hearts were in one accord as the drops of water became a mighty wave. The spotlight was turned on Christian education as students, faculty, and alumni rose to express gratitude for our schools. Students from Russia, Taiwan, and the USA evidenced the values Mississippi Baptists desire to see. While our colleges would not approve the grammar, they do mirror the veracity of an over-heard one-liner: "Ain't hardly no business got here what ain't been went after."

Testimonies were heard from TV personalities, sports figures, and others. The Bible treasures of Stuart Arnold were inspiring and the quota-

tion found on a communion table in England, "Covering each other's infirmities with a mantle of love," just made you feel a little better.

There was the affirmation of several baptistic principles:

We are still a democratic body, and we can disagree without being disagreeable.

Missions is at the foremost in the hearts of our people, and it begins at your front door.

We love strong preaching and inspiring choirs at our conventions.

Morris Chapman, SBC president, called for a national prayer alert for a spiritual awakening. He mentioned that in Russia, you see few people smiling, especially those over 25 years old.

I'm glad it's not that way here. Sunday morning I'll meet an usher at the door of the church — odds are, he will be smiling. We have a lot to be thankful for this season. The urge to smile is not the least of these. — GH

Guest opinion . . .

Commentary on harassment

By Ronald D. Sisk

The issues seem simple on the surface: (1) What constitutes sexual harassment? and (2) How do we prevent it?

Underlying cultural values make the answer to these questions much more emotional and difficult, however, than most of us find it easy to admit.

On one hand, the time-honored cultural definitions in America still suggest that the proper role of the male is that of sexual initiator and that the proper role of the female is that of sexual attractor.

On the other hand, heightened awareness of harassment issues and of the emotional and psychological damage which harassment inflicts makes it imperative that we develop a new ethic of public sexual conduct. For Christians, Paul points us toward an answer. He writes,

For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from fornication; that each of you know how to control your own body in holiness and honor, not with lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one wrong or exploit a brother or sister in this matter . . . For God did not call us to impurity but in holiness (1 Thessalonians 4:3-7, NRSV).

The Apostle thereby leaves us with two principles for guidance.

First is the principle of personal purity. Every Christian, male or female, should be committed to personal sexual purity in thought, speech, and action.

The kind of verbal sexual harassment which has been a subject of much discussion in recent days includes such things as pushing for a date after being rejected and subjecting members of the opposite sex to explicit sexual conversation. These problems would not arise in an environment in which each person was committed to personal purity.

Second is the principle of non-exploitation. Briefly put, no one in a position of power or influence with another person should use that position for selfish sexual purposes. A boss subjecting an employee to sexual pressure or conversation is harassment because the employee may not feel free to decline. Parents may be guilty of sexually harassing or abusing children. Spouses may sexually

harass one another.

Anyone who seeks sexual gratification of any kind from another person without that person's full and free consent is guilty of harassment.

In many cases, harassment falls legally under state and federal anti-discrimination laws. Often, however, harassment victims lack sufficient evidence to prove their cases. Very often they suffer from lack of sympathy by those in authority. Until our society as a whole is absolutely committed to a philosophy of non-exploitation, it is unlikely that harassment victims will have the ammunition they need to protect themselves.

Sisk is pastor of Western Hills Church, Fort Worth, Texas, and an associate of the Baptist Center for Ethics.

West Bank malnutrition on the rise

JERUSALEM, Israel (BP) — Malnutrition among West Bank Palestinian children is on the rise, according to a study conducted by the pediatrics department of a Lutheran World Federation-sponsored hospital in Jerusalem. The study at the Augustana Victoria Hospital, which chiefly serves West Bank Palestinians, is based on 448 children who were admitted in the last six months of 1990 and 266 children admitted through May 15, 1991. The children surveyed were all under two years of age. Malnutrition persisted in all of

the children, but was significant in those older than one year.

Hospital personnel explained that the infants are generally breast-fed, which helps protect them from malnutrition to some extent, but that in their second year the children are dependent on regular sources of food and, according to the survey, have "low intake." Pediatrics staff say the rise in malnutrition is related to the low socioeconomic basis of Augustana Victoria patients, most of whom live in West Bank refugee camps.

Let's Put Divine Aid In Our Foreign Aid



"IT IS NOT THE WILL OF YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN THAT ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES SHOULD PERISH." — MATT. 18:14

Miles to go before I sleep

He walked stately into the convention session trying hard not to be obvious. He was young in some ways, but his eyes were the eyes of a man who had seen most everything. Very little would be new to him; he had heard most of it in 30 or 40 previous conventions. He didn't miss much and you didn't fool him very often. He was

never shocked any more, just disappointed in the affairs of men.

Forty years he had been preaching in churches of all stripes and sizes.

This translates to roughly 4,500 sermons, 2,000 prayer meetings, 1,500 revival services, and 1,000 talks before civic groups. He was word-weary; his mind was sermon-soaked. Any Scripture announced, he had memorized in years gone by. Mentally he would go over the various outlines he had on the Scripture or subject. He had been in 500 deacon meetings and 1,000 church and convention committees. As best he could, he loved and served his church.

The speaker says, "Open your Bibles," and he opens it. He takes notes, writes ideas. It's like a fine-tuned sermon engine; the fuel hits it and the pistons start churning. You realize he will be preparing sermons the rest of his life. The spring is yet to be exhausted. He'll probably reach heaven's gate with a freshly-prepared sermon. Such is the wealth of material poured into earthen vessels. He was called to preach and he'll preach 'til the Lord says, "Enough." Even as I gaze upon him in silent admiration, there is a desire to reach out, maybe just touch the hem of his garment. A prayer is uttered: "Just let a little of that mantle fall on me, O Lord."

Somewhere in the background they are singing a song. It could have been angels:

"I love to tell the story; For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting To hear it like the rest;
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story That I have loved so long."

— GH

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

If you are finding it hard to be thankful this year, take a few minutes to do the exercise below.

Begin by holding both hands out, assigning one blessing to each finger.

Right Hand

1. I am a child of God.
2. I have a family who loves me (most of the time).
3. I have friends who care (most of the time).
4. I am still breathing.
5. I ate today.

Left Hand

- I'm also thankful that
1. I slept in a bed last night with a roof over my head.
 2. I am not naked.
 3. I didn't have to dodge a Scud missile today.
 4. I am not a communist.
 5. I live in a country where I can say #3 and #4.

That wasn't too hard, was it? With enough practice you'll work up to the Advanced List for Toes. So try a little blessing-counting on your own. You may surprise yourself, and you'll please the Lord.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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The Mississippi Baptist Convention officers are, from left, W. Levon Moore, assistant recording secretary, retired director of missions for Attala Association; Edgar Lee Wright, first vice president, pastor of New Sight Church, Brookhaven; W. W. Walley, president, physician from Waynesboro; David Norris, second vice president, pastor, Wayside Church, Scobey; and J. W. Brister, recording secretary, director of missions for Hinds-Madison Association.

Texas Baptists affirm Baylor relationships

WACO, Texas (BP) — A record number of 10,800 messengers to the Baptist General Convention of Texas approved a new relationship with Baylor University; elected Dick Maples, pastor of First Church of Bryan as convention president, and Harry Lucenay, formerly of Temple Church, Hattiesburg, as vice president.

By a 59% margin, messengers endorsed a relationship proposal that had been drafted by BGCT officers and approved by both the convention's executive board and Baylor's governing board.

Under the relationship agreement — approved 5,745 to 3,992 by messengers — 25% of Baylor's governing board will be elected directly by the BGCT, and Baylor will name the remaining 75%, giving consideration to suggestions from the convention.

The agreement also makes virtually nonamendable charter provisions requiring all regents to be Baptist, stipulating the school be operated according to Baptist and Christian ideals, and assuring the university's assets be transferred to the BGCT if Baylor were dissolved and liquidated.

Missionaries aid Filipino survivors after storm

MANILA, Philippines (BP) — Southern Baptist missionaries to the Philippines worked in the days following a deadly Nov. 5 storm to aid survivors in the devastated port city of Ormoc.

Tropical storm Thelma probably killed more than 5,000 people in the central Philippines. The storm caused floods and landslides in Leyte province that buried everything in their paths and left hundreds of bodies buried under mud or lying in the streets. Ormoc, where more than 3,000 bodies have been found, suffered the most.

"At present, Southern Baptists are helping meet emergency needs of food, medicine, shelter, tarpaulins, blankets, and hygiene needs," reported Manila-based missionary Sam Waldron, who spoke Nov. 11 by radio to missionaries in the storm-damaged area.

Waldron spoke to missionaries Danny Johnson, Johnny Norwood, Keith Williams, and Tom and Margaret

Smith. They said the Philippines government was "responding well" to the needs for food and other emergency items. Reports in the area said more than 3,100 people have been buried in mass graves. About 3,000 people were still missing Nov. 11. Many were covered by mud or washed out to sea.

"Keith Williams asked for prayer that they will have the wisdom to know how to minister and how to set up a distribution system," Waldron said. "Many people were buried without identification. Whole families died in this tragedy which struck with such force and so quickly."

The Smiths, of Lonoke and Hickory Plains, Ark., respectively, live in Ormoc. Their home was not damaged in the storm.

Relief teams were working to prevent epidemics caused by the unburied bodies. The storm left at least 12,000 people homeless, according to the Philippine government.

By a 5,976 to 4,714 vote, messengers turned aside a substitute motion by Ed Young, pastor of Second Church of Houston, which would have required Baylor University's governing board to submit to binding arbitration or face an "appeal to Caesar."

Calling for "rule by the elect and not the elite," Young introduced the substitute motion asking Baylor University to submit to final and binding arbitration by three individuals named by evangelist Billy Graham.

Affirming the executive board proposal as "the best available at this time," Lineberger said, "Rejecting this proposal won't bring Baylor back to its previous relationship. And to change this agreement is to simply lose the agreement that has been drafted."

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Cuban evangelistic tour participants overwhelmed by results and churches

WASHINGTON (BP) — A delegation of Baptist pastors and leaders who were allowed to preach evangelistically in Cuba since that country's revolution has just returned with a report that the nine days spent ministering with Baptists in Cuba, during which time they saw more than 900 people make first time decisions to follow Jesus Christ, was like "a first century Christian experience."

"It was fantastic," said Enrique Torres, an associate executive minister of the American Baptist Los Angeles Baptist City Mission Society. "Every worship service was packed to capacity, and people were even standing on the outside."

"We felt like revival was happening and breaking out in every place" said Michael Catlett, senior pastor of the Southern Baptist McLean (Va.) Baptist Church.

Catlett and Torres were two of the

13 English- and Spanish-speaking American Baptist and Southern Baptist pastors and leaders in the Cuban evangelistic tour sponsored by the Baptist World Alliance, which visited Cuba from Oct. 25 to Nov. 4, led by Tony Cupit, BWA director of evangelism.

More than 2,000 decisions that included the first time call to follow Jesus Christ, be baptized, or recommit to the Christian faith were made in response to the evangelistic preaching of the 13 leaders who spoke in the 129 churches of the Baptist Convention of Eastern Cuba.

The Eastern Convention, which has been in partnership with the American Baptist Churches USA since 1899, specifically had requested this evangelistic emphasis.

"Wherever we went in Cuba, we saw a tremendous thirst for the gospel, especially among young people" said Cupit.

"The response was just marvelous" said Daniel Sanchez, professor of missiology at the Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. "The statistics do not begin to express all that took place. The seed of the gospel was sown in many hearts, as well as those who made commitments. I preached 10 times and there were decisions every single time."

Catlett said he preached nine times and "only one time was there a seat available." At all times the churches were completely full. "There is a great hunger for the gospel," he said.

"How they evangelize," says Torres who was impressed by the Baptists and the sacrifices they make to preach the gospel. While he saw many first-time decisions to accept Jesus Christ, Torres was moved by "more than one hundred young people who came forward in response to the call to the gospel ministry and to go to seminary."

The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, November 21, 1991

Published Since 1877

Mississippi Baptists adopt \$21.6 million budget for '92

By Tim Nicholas

Mississippi Baptists, meeting at First Church, Jackson, Nov. 12-13, adopted a \$21.6 million Cooperative Program budget, passed non-controversial resolutions, and elected a layman as president.

The 1,708 registered messengers elected as their president a 75-year-old physician from Waynesboro, W. W. Walley. Walley is the first lay president since 1985 when Charles Pickering of Laurel, now a U.S. district court judge, was president. Walley succeeds convention president Eddie Hamilton, pastor of Oak Forest Church, Jackson.

Walley, for 40 years a doctor, has delivered a total of 6,731 babies as of last week. He is a member of First Church, Waynesboro, and has served on the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's executive committee and on the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. He and his wife Eletha have four children.

In the election he led a field of three including Gary Berry, pastor of Temple Church, Hattiesburg, and Larry Otis, a lay member of Calvary Church, Tupelo. Walley defeated Berry in a run-off, 530 to 507.

The resolutions opposed all forms of gambling and supported H.R. 2797, which is known as the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

The resolution noted that since the Supreme Court decision of 1990 — Oregon Employment Division v. Smith — other court decisions "have gone against religious groups, thus

opening the door to government regulations of our churches and intrusion into the free exercise of our faith . . ."

The act would return to a requirement that government "demonstrate a compelling state interest before it is permitted to burden our religious freedom . . ."

The budget, passing with only scattered opposition, weathered two attempts to amend it. Both would have sent a higher percentage of gifts from churches to Southern Baptist causes outside Mississippi. Such monies go to home and foreign missions supporting approximately 8,000 missionaries and to support six stateside seminaries. Since 1984, Mississippi Baptists have increased by a half percent a year the portion of budget going outside the state up to 1991, when the amount totaled 37 percent.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board recommended to the convention that the percentage stay the same for this next year since church gifts have not paralleled giving increases through the state.

The first attempt to change the budget was to ask to reaffirm the 1984 convention action which asked succeeding conventions to add a half percent to SBC causes. It would have made it harder for future conventions to change the formula even in difficult financial times. That motion failed 351 to 695.

The second attempt was to directly amend the budget to add the half

percent to SBC causes. It would have taken \$107,942 from the Mississippi portion of the budget — half from the associational subsidy and half from the Baptist Record. That motion failed 274 to 419.

Larry Otis, who is budget committee chairman, told messengers that should percentage giving increase from the churches, the budget committee would reconvene to add that half percent to SBC causes outside the state.

As approved, the 1992 Cooperative Program budget of \$21,588,435, will be divided \$7,987,721 to SBC causes outside Mississippi, \$5,476,801 to Mississippi Baptist institutions such as the Baptist Children's Village and the colleges, and \$8,123,913 to church leader training programs.

Though the percentage will stay the same, there is an increase to SBC causes totaling \$236,235.

A constitutional change suggested last year which would have placed the executive director as ex officio on all boards and agencies was rejected by the constitution and by-laws committee.

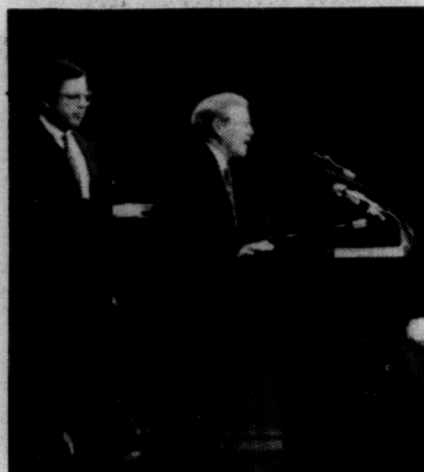
Instead, the committee reported, the trustees of all three Baptist colleges have passed formal resolutions inviting the executive director to all regular and called meetings of the boards.

Other officers elected were first vice president Edgar Lee Wright, (See CONVENTION on page 5)

Thursday, November 21, 1991



Morris Chapman, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, addressed attendees of the convention Tuesday afternoon. Chapman asked Mississippi Baptists for spiritual awakening through humility and prayer.



Doug Benedict, right, director of missions, Lamar Association, expressed his thanks to the Mississippi Baptist Convention for prayers and support during a recent illness. Eddie Hamilton, president of the convention, used a few spare moments in the convention program schedule to accept prayer requests and lead the assembly in prayer.



Pictured are the newly-elected officers of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. From left, they are David Sellers, vice-president, pastor of First Church, Collinsville; Gus Merritt, secretary, pastor of Clarke Venable Church, Decatur; and P. J. Scott, president, pastor of First Church, Olive Branch.



Officers elected for the Pastor's Conference, from left, are Charles Wesley, secretary, pastor of White Sand Church, Prentiss; Ken Alford, president, pastor of Morrison Heights Church, Clinton; and Bobby Williamson, vice president, pastor of Park Place Church, Brandon.

Dent becomes camp manager



Bob Dent, maintenance director, Camp Garaywa, since early 1989, has been named camp manager.

A native of Holly Springs, he attended Ole Miss and Union University and earned a master's degree from Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

He and his wife, Kathy, had worked as special project volunteers with the Foreign Mission Board in the Philippines where he was camp manager of Luzon Baptist Campground and assistant business manager of the Philippine Baptist Mission. Also he had served as a missionary journeyman in Liberia.

Kathy is part-time dietitian for Camp Garaywa.

He succeeds Fran Prickett who is now mail room supervisor at the Baptist Building.

capsules

WEST VIRGINIA BAPTISTS ELECT DON MATHIS NEW EXECUTIVE: HUNTINGTON, W. Va. (BP) — Don R. Mathis, pastor of Central Church in Corbin, Ky., was selected executive director-treasurer of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists Oct. 31, immediately preceding the convention's Nov. 1-2 annual meeting. During Mathis's time as pastor, the Corbin church has had more than 2,000 additions, reaching new high totals in membership, attendance, evangelism, and mission support. Sunday School attendance has increased from an average of 330 people to a current average of 945 people. Worship attendance has grown from 400 to more than 1,000.

RELIGIOUS LEADERS CALL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL "GREEN NETWORK," SET UP 1-800 HOTLINE: NEW YORK — A national "Green Network" designed to strengthen religious environmental activity has been launched at the initiative of U.S. religious and political leaders. Their first step: establishment of a 1-800 "Green Hotline" to gather documentation about what congregations are doing to protect the environment. Congregations are being encouraged to report on their environmental activities — for example, in the areas of recycling, religious education, liturgy, land use programs, energy conservation and local advocacy — by calling the toll-free hotline: 1-800-435-9466. Information collected by telephone and in a follow-up survey will be published in a "Guide to Environmental Activities in the American Religious Community," projected to be published in time for a May 10-12, 1992, Washington Summit on the Environment.

PREHISTORIC FISHING VILLAGE DISCOVERED NEAR THE SEA OF GALILEE: Archaeologists in Israel have uncovered in Ohalo, on the southwestern shore of the Sea of Galilee, remnants of what, approximately 19,000 years ago, appears to have been a fishing village. The area was probably home to a group of Stone Age inhabitants who lived from hunting and fishing, as evidenced by the large quantity of fish bones found at the site. Huts made of mud and straw, about 15 feet in diameter, which had been buried and preserved by the mud of the lake, were also discovered. The site was uncovered because of the drastic decrease in the water level of the lake. This has led to several other important archaeological discoveries over the last few years, including a large fishing boat believed to date back to the time of Jesus, some 2,000 years ago.

Pastors' conference lives up to expectations

By Guy Henderson

This pre-convention meeting, designed for information and inspiration, lived up to the expectation. Dwight Smith, pastor of West Ellisville, presided. Ronnie Cottingham, music evangelist from Agricola, directed the music. His prayer-song "Touch Your People Once Again," was very effective.

M. L. Faler, Woolmarket Church, spoke from Mark 2:1-7 declaring the presence of Christ, the crowd, the preaching of the Word, the persistence of the few resulted in power displayed and sins forgiven. "These," said Faler, "are the marks of a legitimate ministry."

Edgar Lee Wright of New Sight Church in Lincoln County told how David encouraged himself in the Lord and turned possible ruin into personal renewal. The pastor of Leesburg Church, Odus Jackson, expressed the need of a role model declaring the present system of education will not accept the Bible.

Cliff Brown, general manager, WDAM-TV, Laurel/Hattiesburg, gave a personal testimony on prayer and how prayer had healed his life in many ways. "We must seek the mind

of Christ in our everyday activities," said Brown.

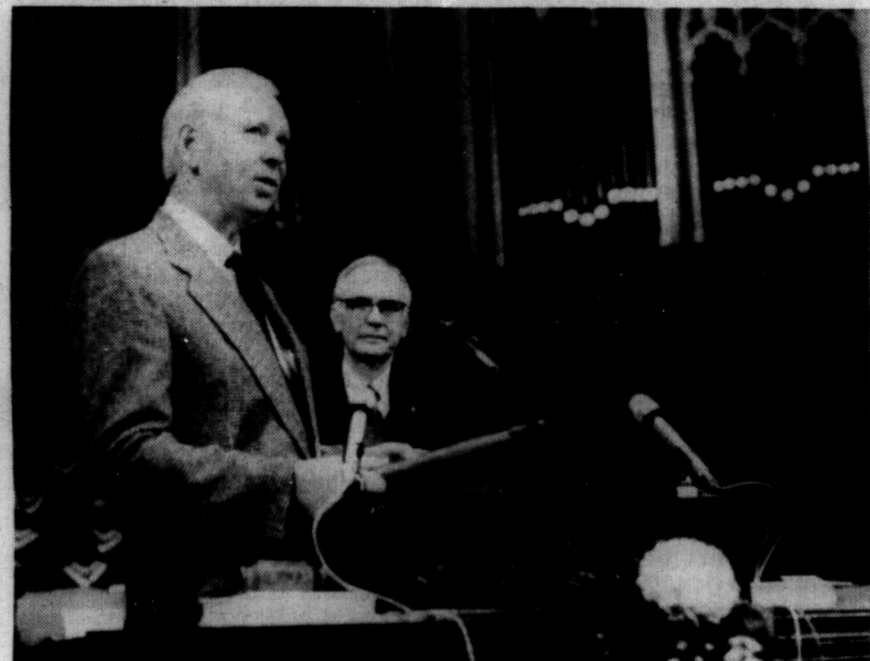
Floyd Grice of Salem Heights church, Brandon, led in the music for the closing services.

Out-of-state speakers were Mike Gilchrist, evangelist from Shreveport, La.; Ron Phillips of Central Church, Hixson, Tenn.; Bobby Welch, First Church, Daytona Beach, Fla.; and David Ring, evangelist from Orlando.

Officers elected for the coming year are Ken Alford, pastor of Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, president; Bobby Williamson, pastor of Park Place Church, Brandon, vice-president; and Charles Wesley, pastor of Whitesand Church, secretary/treasurer.

Scholars say nine modern fruits were eaten 2,000 years before Christ: grapes, pears, quinces, watermelon, figs, dates, bananas, apricots, and apples.

The 1987 Framingham Heart Study says non-churchgoing women have 20 times the heart-attack risk of church-going women.



Bill Baker, left, pastor of First Church, Clinton, and president of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation Board, presented a certificate of recognition to **Aubrey Boone**, director of the Foundation, MBCB. Boone has served in that position since 1987, and recently announced his retirement.

"World, we want you to have this"

By Indy Whitten

The Sunday night service at the Briar Hill Church in Rankin County was over. The pastor, Wilson Winstead, had given an invitation and was making his closing remarks after we had led in a mission study on Venezuela.

He said, "I am happy to be the pastor of a church that prays for missions and gives to missions. Sometimes it isn't easy to do as much as we would like to do. During the past weeks my wife and I have had several unexpected expenses: My wife had major surgery last week; I dropped my hearing aid and somebody stepped on it and broke it, and my car developed water leakage. But we are so thankful that we were able to follow our usual practice in regard to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Each January we begin to set aside an amount each month, and no matter what happens, we have that offering to give."

As we were gathering up the materials we had used in the mission study, I saw a boy who was talking earnestly to Winstead. Both of them had smiles on their faces, so I imagined that the boy had made a profession of faith.

Then the pastor joined us and pulled a one dollar bill from his pocket. "I am humbled," he said. "That 7-year-old boy put this dollar bill in my hands and said, 'I want you to have this.'"

My immediate response was, "Lord, am I as sensitive as this boy to needs he hears about? Can I sincerely say, 'My life is filled with God's amazing grace. World, I want you to have this!'"

Indy Whitten and her husband, Charles, are prayer coordinators, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



Mattie Bliss Carter attended the Mississippi Baptist Convention on Nov. 13 with her grandfather, Wiley Reid, pastor of Friendship Church, Brookhaven. Mattie was 3 months old on Nov. 14. Reese Kyzar of First Church, Rolling Fork, is her pastor. Her grandfather said, "She came to hear me pray." (Photo by Florence Ann Larimore)

"We've got to know that the gospel is for everyone"

By Anne W. McWilliams

The centerpiece of the Lay Missions Conference at First Church, Jackson, Nov. 11 was the Marketplace Ministries Conference. Leader of the session was energetic and forceful Tillie Burgin, former missionary to Korea who is now minister of missions at First Church, Arlington, Texas.

When circumstances brought her back to the U.S. from Korea, someone told her, "Now you will always be introduced as a 'former missionary.'" But she gave that some thought and concluded, "No, that can't be. There's no such thing as a 'former' missionary." She implied that all Christians, including the laity, are to be missionaries, wherever they are.

Certainly in Arlington she has proved herself still to be a missionary. Her ministry there includes weekly Bible studies in more than 100 locations, and has a waiting list of 14 apartment complexes where Bible studies could begin if volunteer leaders could be found. It includes helping the 50-60 people who come daily seeking food, clothing, transportation, or money for rent or utilities; it sponsors AA and Narcotics Anonymous groups; and it operates a medical clinic and a child care center for unemployed parents looking for jobs.

The police chief of Arlington told Burgin, she said, that these ministries have made a difference in the city.

She referred to Acts 17:16-17, "While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols, so he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there."

Burgin said, "I don't care how good we are at the 11 o'clock service, if we don't meet the needs of those out there, they are not going to come. . . . We've got to know that the gospel is for everyone. If they don't come to church, we can go where they are and say, 'We will have church out here with you.'"

She asked, "Have you ever said, 'Oh, I forgot to salt the meat'? You know how meat tastes without salt. The world is waiting. We Christians are the salt."

She described one place where she ministers. At first, she saw the children as dirty and unattractive and the adults with their many problems as most unlovable. But now, she said, "They are the most beautiful people I have ever seen." The people had not changed so much as her own attitude

had changed when she came to know the people as individuals and to see them through the eyes of love.

When she starts a Bible study at an apartment complex or elsewhere, she said, she begins with a phone call. Once the contact is made and permission granted for the Bible study to be held there, she emphasized, "Hang in there. Talk to the people. Let them see you. Keep going again and again. Tell them, 'God loves you so much.' Just do it. God will bless you every step of the way. He will fulfill and renew you. When you should be exhausted and tired, it won't happen."

Other speakers were Helen Price, counselor, Summit, and Harry Vickery, Greenville businessman. For years, Vickery has been placing New Testaments in glove compartments of cars he sold.

He reported that a Jew who found one of the New Testaments told him, "I am offended," and he replied, "I just gave you the wrong half!"

One woman who received a Testament happened to have it with her when she was in a beauty shop and needed some reading material. "As a result of that reading, I have started going back to church," she told Vickery. To this marketplace ministry of his, he has had numerous such responses.

Mission fellowship meetings in early afternoon were for those interested in agricultural missions, ham radio, medical-dental missions, educational missions, Campers on Mission, Cooperative Program champions, church renewal, and construction. Their topic was "Volunteers in Missions."

At 5 p.m. came a lay missions banquet, where Dennis Swanberg, humorist and pastor of First Church, Monroe, La., spoke.

"If we are to win Mississippi and our world to Jesus," stated one program brochure, "it is significant that each of us become a marketplace minister."

The conference was sponsored by the Brotherhood, Cooperative Missions, and WMU Departments, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Thursday, November 21, 1991

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



Betty Scott, left, of Olive Branch, and Carolyn Thompson, of Madison, right, talk during a break at the Ministers' Wives Conference, Nov. 11, First Church, Jackson. Scott is married to P. J. Scott, pastor of First Church, Olive Branch. Thompson is the wife of Julius Thompson, director of the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Conference draws 89 ministers' wives

By Shannon T. Simpson

Ministers' wives met Monday, Nov. 11, at First Church, Jackson, for a pre-convention conference.

The 89 attendees participated in conferences led by Joy Yates, wife of James F. Yates, pastor of First, Yazoo City; and Jo Ann Leavell, wife of Landrum P. Leavell, president of New Orleans Seminary.

Yates' topic was "It's a Great Life! (If You Don't Weaken)." She spoke of the frustrations of trying to be all things to all people, and offered some ways to avoid those frustrations: realize "this man is not yours. He belongs to God, and to the church," she said; be active, but selective; learn to say, "No"; don't neglect your home by being so active outside it; make dates with your husband if you must.

And don't lose your sense of humor, she said. "We've done everything except marry, bury, and baptize without

being ordained," Yates laughed.

Leavell spoke under the topic "Don't Miss the Blessing," also the title of a book she has authored, published by Pelican Press, New Orleans.

"We have to learn to be inner-directed, learn to let God take control," emphasized Leavell. She gave advice on "taking hold" of your life, of establishing priorities, and not becoming mired in over-commitment. Speaking from personal experiences, she talked of remaining strong through times of stress, of claiming James 1:12 in order not to let Satan move in and weaken faith. Prepare for crisis times by maintaining relationships and pursuing quiet times with the Lord, said Leavell.

The conference was sponsored by the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



Tillie Burgin, center, greets Parkes and Martha Ellen Marler of Forest, who are also former missionaries to Korea.



Ronnie Cottingham, minister of music at Agricola Church, Lucedale, delivered a testimony in song to the Tuesday afternoon session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Cottingham was also one of six people who were asked to share testimonies of "How I Met Jesus."

Turmoil in health care system: economics and/or ethics?

By Ira H. Peak

A recent meeting of the nation's governors was dominated by the crisis in the U.S. health care system. Both Democratic and Republican governors agreed that the system is too expensive and bypasses too many people.

The "system" is a complex of "patients," "providers," and "payors" (insurance companies, government programs, etc.).

Virtually no one is satisfied with it.

On its face the health care crisis appears to be only about money: controlling costs which continue to increase each year exponentially; developing a less expensive system of payment (a recent leading medical journal reported that fully 24% of medical costs were traceable to paperwork); and providing some kind of comprehensive plan for covering health care costs of the indigent, but also the "uninsured" (approximately 37 million working Americans and their families with no health insurance).

At a deeper level, however, the issues in the crisis are more than economics. They are profoundly ethical. Let us examine why.

For all intents and purposes, the U.S. has no national health policy designed to plan for, or account for, how all Americans will (or should) receive health care.

We, nevertheless, have a broad consensus regarding the goals which our system should achieve. These goals are that health care in the U.S. should provide: (1) the highest quality care possible; (2) the widest possible access (so as to include every American); and (3) the lowest possible cost.

These goals are identified typically as "quality," "access," and "cost."

So, what's the problem? Are these not laudable goals? Quite clearly, they are.

The problem is that researchers have learned that these three goals are not "mutually achievable." In

sum, a health care system may be able to achieve one or possibly two of these goals. But all three cannot be achieved simultaneously.

For example, we might insist on having high quality care at the lowest possible cost. This can be achieved by narrowing access to the system. We would be deciding thereby to exclude some Americans. Who would make that decision? Would it be fair? Would it be just?

Regrettably, other ethical dilemmas emerge if we propose to achieve wide access and low cost or high quality and wide access. There are no easy answers, only important ethical questions — inviting serious Christian reflection.

Ira Peak is assistant professor of ethics and policy studies at the Institute for Ethics and Policy Studies at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas and an associate of the Baptist Center for Ethics.

CONVENTION

From page 3

pastor of New Sight Baptist Church, Brookhaven; and David Norris, pastor of Wayside Baptist Church, Scobey. Wright was nominated with no opposition. Norris defeated Paul Blange, pastor of Society Hill Church, Jeff Davis County.

The recording and assistant recording secretary, respectively were re-elected. They are J.W. Brister of Jackson and W. Levon Moore of Kosciusko.

The 1992 Mississippi Baptist Convention will meet Nov. 10-11, at First Church, Jackson. S. A. "Sonny" Adkins, pastor of Forest Church, Forest, will preach the annual sermon. Ernest Sadler, director of missions for Jackson County, will be alternate preacher.

MISSISSIPPI MISSIONARIES TALK ON LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

— when asked what Lottie Moon means to them

"One of the missions in our area, the Higuito Baptist Mission, was able to purchase and move into its own building right before we left. The ability of missions to purchase strategic properties depends directly on the response to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. If no money is given, no properties are bought. The 'Green Alert' issued by the Foreign Mission Board wants to send 150-200 missionaries into eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Those missionaries will not have housing or automobiles if the Lottie Moon goal is not met."

— Russell Kyzar, music missionary to Costa Rica, on furlough in Clinton

"To me, Lottie Moon is a basic essential. It used to be used to buy missionaries' cars, houses, new church properties, etc., but now with the Cooperative Program shortfall, Lottie Moon is necessary to sustain the work, not just for extras. I am most grateful for what Lottie Moon dollars have done over the past 22 years in Brazil. It helps. Recently, though, we received a letter from our associate director that our Operating budget (covering travel expenses, evangelistic materials, Bibles) will be cut \$300,000 per year for the next three years. This will be a gigantic curtailment of our effectiveness as missionaries. It leaves us feeling as if we are not supported at home. Unless the Lottie Moon Offering goal is met, we can expect this kind of thing more often."

— Byron Harbin, missionary to south Brazil, on furlough in Jackson

"Time after time we have been blessed by the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. We have asked, and we have received. In Argentina we were involved in starting new work. When we would need a piece of property or a small chapel building, we would go to the Mission. They could say, 'Yes' because of the Lottie Moon Offering. We realize that money is becoming more and more scarce as more missionaries are appointed and as more needs open up, such as those in east Europe. Also each year the amount needed for the operating budget has increased, which meant that the amount for capital needs has steadily decreased. We need an increase in the Lottie Moon Offering every year even to meet the budget."

— Mark Alexander, missionary to Argentina for 33 years, retired and living in Clinton

"Two things come to mind: the chapel of the Baptist Theological Seminary in Liberia, built in the late 1970s with Lottie Moon funds; and a Baptist publications building constructed and equipped in the early '80s with Lottie Moon dollars. Of course, we use the chapel for worship, conventions, workshops, all kinds of things, so we are reminded of the gift of Lottie Moon dollars every day."

— Felix Greer, missionary educator, Baptist Theological Seminary, Liberia, on furlough in Jackson

"Lottie Moon Offering is actually the means to mobilize the missionary. We project our work using a minimum-based budget, and then we wait expectantly to see what Lottie is going to do. All new works, new church projects depend on Lottie Moon. It's exciting for me and my family to give to Lottie Moon; we know that we can be a part of what goes on in other parts of the world."

— Gerry Colston, missionary to Korea, on furlough in Starkville

"The reality is that, without Lottie Moon, nothing would be possible. I always feel the Lord will provide; when the money is not there, you learn to be creative. But when the money is there, it makes the work easier and the vision broader. I remember one time we found out about a little 'invasion area' that was a mile long and housed about 50,000 people (squatters) there in Brasilia. We went in and began a little Sunday School on Sunday afternoons. It grew into a mission church, and was constituted last month. But when it first started, there was a tremendous need for a structure in which to meet. In a very short time, we were able to purchase two little shacks with funds provided indirectly by the Lottie Moon Offering."

— Laura Dunaway, missionary to Brazil, on furlough in Clinton

"Not only is it uncommon for a person in our area to have a Bible, but when they do get one, it is a real treasure. The Bibles presented to new converts, along with those given to missionaries for study, are totally bought with Lottie Moon dollars. Our car was bought with Lottie Moon dollars; the church where we have our children's choir was built completely with Lottie Moon dollars; there are so many classes there that are used for Outreach to the community, and many have responded through those classes."

— Rick and Nedra Carter, music missionaries to Argentina, on furlough in Hattiesburg

"I've been on both ends of the Lottie Moon Offering. As a pastor, I was involved in promoting the offering and trying to get my church to support it. As a missionary, I reaped the benefits of it, and saw what it could do for nationals in Taiwan. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering helped begin buildings on the campus of our seminary and our 'Little Ridgecrest' assembly, helped house missionaries and furnish them with automobiles, and also helped start a fund to finance loans for New church starts and special needs in Taiwan."

— Harry Raley, retired missionary evangelist to Taiwan, now living in Clinton

Letters to the editor

Agrees with "the 35"

Editor:

The "Letters to the Editor" section on Nov. 7 contained many letters of outrage of the Foreign Mission Board's action to defund the Ruschlikon Seminary in Switzerland. It is stated that we have not held up our end of the bargain. It's interesting, that no mention is made of their refusal to hold up to their end of the agreement in moving toward a more conservative stand in their theological teaching. Do we have a right to ask this of them? Yes, we do. The convention has spoken clearly over the past years of its desire for a conservative stand in its teaching in our seminaries, and yes, we have that right when we are providing 40% of the seminary's operating budget.

A clear statement was made concerning their intentions when allowing Glenn Hinson to come and teach. Hinson's writings reveal his liberal views. His book, *The Evangelization of the Roman Empire*, p. 287, states, "Today, it would appear, the covenant and thus the mission of the church could be defined with a greater measure of tolerance. This would not necessitate an abandonment of monotheism nor of the convention that some sort of special revelation occurred through Israel and Christ and the church. It might necessitate, however, the acknowledgement that the one God has disclosed himself in particular ways through other cultures and religions besides these." Hinson states in his book, *Jesus Christ*, p. 76, "Indeed, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that Jesus expected the return of the Son of Man and the consummation to occur within his own lifetime (Mark 13:30). His error was due to prophetic foreshortening."

Yes, we need to be involved in the training of students in Europe due to the open doors. But, I agree with the "35" trustees who voted against the type of teaching mentioned.

Brad Banks
Anguilla

"The straw that broke the camel's back"

Editor:

My "born in the wool" Southern Baptist bubble has burst! My heart has been heavy for some time now over the bickerings and backbiting going on in our convention. My, you'd think we had to DO something to earn our salvation — or believe exactly as someone tells us to believe. I was taught and God's Word tells me (which, by the way — I believe every word of the Bible is true) that salvation comes only by accepting Jesus Christ as a personal Saviour. Have I been misled? I think not.

But the straw that broke the camel's back for me came when I read of the defunding of the seminary at Ruschlikon, Switzerland. Forty-two years down the drain because someone is not conservative enough; not fundamentalist enough or too liberal? Just when the countries of Russia and that part of the world are opening doors to Christian witnessing, we choose to hurt that witness. I'm not at all sure I want our Lottie Moon Offering to go through the Southern Baptist Convention and right now, I am not very proud to be a Southern Baptist.

The Bible tells us that if something is not of God, it will not stand; and that if something is of God, all the gates of hell cannot prevail against it. Are our Southern Baptist leaders

aware of this scripture? They must not be because they are not acting like they are. Or did I learn this from some preacher who did not know the Three Big Words?

When I arrive at the Pearly Gates, St. Peter will not ask me if I'm Conservative, Fundamentalist, or Liberal. He will ask me if I'm a child of the King and a YES answer to that is the only key I'll need to open the gates of heaven. May God help our leaders see what this rift is doing for our Christian witness around the world and on their knees pray for guidance that fences will be mended, strifes and differences done away with, before we lose a world, trying to gain a few votes!

Mrs. Peggy Gillon
Gore Springs

Which way is forward?

Editor:

With recent political events in mind let us look at some facts. Our nation was founded by people who had foresight, and faith in God. They fought battles but they never lost a war. They saw good times and bad and were always smart enough to overdo the bad, and through it all they never left God out of government and education until the last half of the 19th century when prayer was taken out of our schools to please a few while the rest of us sat quiet and said nothing back.

And while other nations laughed at our religion and lost respect for us then we started losing respect for our own and made ourselves a style to live by that suited ourselves and let God think what he may. Who cares? Then the generation gap opened and America hasn't been the same America since. Our schools have been programmed to fit only the high salaried people's style of living which is working hardship on the lower paid people and their children trying to stay up with the rush of schools that teach many things that children are too young to have to study about it, causing them to hate.

Furthermore, what works well for city children don't work for children in rural areas, but they all need to be taught their duties to their government and to other people and much more that they are not being taught. If you want better government and school programming call or write to the top people that program such and have authority to change it and tell them what you like and don't like. When they get enough letters from concerned people, they will start thinking and changing things.

Claude Carr
Monticello

MSH Christmas House

Editor:

All of us enjoy the feelings this special season brings. It is important for our patients at Mississippi State Hospital to share in this time, but many of them have little or no family support. Donations of gifts, talents, and time can make a difference to our patients during the holidays.

We request that any gifts and donations be received at MSH by Dec. 16. Our mailing address is: Volunteer Services, Mississippi State Hospital, P. O. Box 75, Whitfield, MS 39193.

Please call Volunteer Services with any question you have regarding the Christmas House efforts.

Joe F. Blakeney, FACHE
Director

"How did you know that I needed this letter right now?"

By Anne W. McWilliams

"If I think of a person at least three times, when I'm washing dishes, or whatever I'm doing, I feel like the Lord wants me to write them."

Frances Pierce of Terry has a ministry of encouragement through letter writing. Since 1986, she has written 2,715 letters to shut-ins, or to people who were terminally ill or deeply disturbed. Those were her figures on Nov. 1. And the letters were all written by hand. That shows more love and caring, she believes, than the xeroxed or typewritten.

"God gave me this ministry," she said. "On April 15, 1978, he gave me the first five names." That was the year of her mother's death.

In 1986, she retired after 40 years with the state Department of Health, her only job. Single and living alone, she found herself at first not knowing how to relax and enjoy all that free time. Searching for a way to help others, she substantially increased her letter writing ministry.

Her letters usually go in a series of four. First, she sends a "basic" selection titled, "Prayer for Peace," and a group of Scripture verses which she calls God's "priceless, precious, proven promises." Usually she sends a Sympathy or Get Well card if she knows the recipient is ill or griefstricken. Otherwise, she might send a Thinking of You card. But on the back, in longhand, she writes the "promises" from the Bible.

Second, she writes out selections from seven hymns or songs to include with her letter. "Through It All" is one song she always uses.

Third, she copies poems from certain books she has chosen and keeps in a box on her writing desk or nearby. This desk, built by a Terry craftsman, is low and just the right size to pull up to the front of her couch, for comfortable writing.

Fourth, she sends her own carefully picked words of encouragement. These letters are spaced about a week apart.

Some people she writes she has met at Gulfshore or in travels with the senior adults of Terry Church, where she is associate Sunday School teacher for the Ruth Class. Sometimes people call and give her names of those who need encouragement. In other times, she said, God impresses on her mind the names of certain persons. She may write, not knowing for sure why. Many times people have replied, "How did you know I needed this letter right now?"

After the initial series of four letters, she may continue writing or she may not. Usually it depends on the response. One woman she has been writing weekly since 1980.

Always she writes on the letter, "No reply expected," so no one will feel obligated to reply. Of course she pays for her own stamps, for about 40 or 50 letters a month.

Frances was born in Hazlehurst but went to high school at Crystal Springs and was baptized at First Church, Crystal Springs, by Joe Odle, a former editor of the Baptist Record.

For a long time she lived in Jackson before her move to Terry in 1971. There she was a member of First Church. "Through all my life," she said, "so many people have been there when I needed them." She mentioned some First, Jackson names — "Dr. Odle, Mrs. Joe Triplett, Mrs. C. C. Johnson, Mrs. Tom Hederman Sr., Dr. Douglas Hudgins and Mrs. Hudgins, Mrs. Agnes Wright . . . With these letters I want to be there when I'm needed as many others have been for me. This ministry that God gave me has enriched my life more than anything I've ever done."

It takes time and thought, as she pours her whole self into it, praying for each individual as she writes and trying to gear that letter to the recipient's needs.

As she has given herself in love, she pointed out, "I have received love in return."

1886 — The first Sunbeam Band in Mississippi was organized at the First Baptist Church, Clinton with Mrs. B. D. Gray as the leader.

1877 — John T. Christian was elected executive secretary of the convention board to succeed J. B. Gambrell who continued as editor of the Baptist Record.

Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams

Equipped with new heart, pastor returns to Vermont



Peggy and Aubrey Jones

"I believe that some day I'll preach again," Aubrey Jones kept telling his wife, Peggy. He'd had several heart attacks, plus triple bypass surgery, and was slowly dying of congestive heart failure. What he said didn't seem possible. But he was right.

Three years ago Aubrey got a new heart. Last week he returned to Vermont, again to take up the pastorate of the Precision Valley Baptist Church, where he had previously served eight years, in North Springfield.

"We are going on faith," Peggy said, from the midst of packed boxes. "The church is paying for our move, and will provide a salary," Aubrey added.

Also First Church, Clinton, where they have been members for several years, possibly will help with their support and Peggy will work at a doctor's office. Aubrey must continue taking around \$1,200 worth of medicine monthly (insurance pays 80%). The medication allows his body to accept the heart, although it reduces immunity to viruses.

During the time that Aubrey was disabled, Peggy started her own cleaning business, to help meet bills.

On July 20, 1988, at the age of 53, Aubrey received the heart of a 21-year-old man who had died in a motorcycle accident. Two days earlier, doctors had told Peggy he might live two more days. The transplant surgery was

done at University Medical Center, Jackson.

Though his O-negative blood is rare, the heart that matched his blood became available the day doctors had said he would die.

From August of 1976 to July of 1984, Aubrey was pastor in Vermont. Also he has held several pastorates in Mississippi. Under his guidance the five-family Springfield Chapel grew to the 85-member Precision Valley Baptist Church, Springfield. When he had to leave Vermont, due to severe heart problems, he never dreamed he would be able to go back.

Earlier this year, he served twice as interim pastor at Precision Valley Church. When the church called him, full-time, Aubrey's doctors said they thought it would be good for him to accept.

Of course his new heart has no guarantees. But Aubrey says, "I feel better than I've felt in 10 years. The Lord has been good to me and given me a second chance."

"Nothing in life is guaranteed," Peggy told one reporter, "but already he has had three years more than we thought he'd have."

As they prepared to leave Clinton for Vermont, both agreed they are living in the middle of a miracle, and said, as they begin this new venture, "We are sure the Lord will take care of us."



Frances Pierce writes 2,716th letter.

China starts crackdown on "illegal" religious activities

HONG KONG — China's Communist Party has ordered intelligence agents and police to start a nationwide crackdown on "illegal" religious activities, according to a Central Committee document obtained by The Associate Press.

The 12-page directive, titled a "Circular on Further Tackling Certain Problems of Religious Work," was issued Feb. 5 following a nationwide gathering of religious officials in Beijing. Chinese sources recently passed along the document to the Associated Press.

It takes months for such directives to be passed down the many levels to local enforcement, and businessmen and religious leaders have reported signs of a new crackdown in recent weeks.

The crackdown came as Secretary of State James Baker readied for a trip to China for talks that reportedly would include human rights.

In firm language, the document orders "public security departments at all levels" to "resolutely attack those counterrevolutionaries and other criminal elements who make use of religion to carry out destructive activities."

The document defines illegal activities as the establishment of religious organizations outside of state control and the use of religion to foment separatism.

The Chinese sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retribution, said China's increasingly restive Muslims and Tibetans, along with a growing number of Catholics and Protestants, would be targets of the campaign.

The paper said that while freedom of religion must be respected in China, security organs must "attack the use of religion to perform unlawful and criminal activities and firmly resist the infiltration of foreign religious inimical forces."

WMU leaders object to defunding

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — The national leaders of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union have formally objected to a recent decision by trustees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board to defund the Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland.

WMU is the missions organization for women, girls, and preschoolers in Southern Baptist churches and is an auxiliary organization to the Southern Baptist Convention.

FMB trustees voted Oct. 9 to cut all funding slated for the Swiss seminary. Trustees earlier had agreed to continue contributions to the school through 1992 and then begin a gradual decrease of funding. The action taken by FMB trustees will cost the seminary \$365,000 during 1992 — about 40% of the seminary's total budget.

WMU leaders reminded FMB trustees of their own 103-year-old relationship. "Throughout our history, WMU has been one of the staunchest supporters of the Foreign Mission Board. We have linked arms many times over the years to further the cause of Christ around the world. We have supported you through thick and thin, during lean times and during prosperous times.

"But recently, the FMB trustees made a decision which we cannot support — the decision to defund the Ruschlikon Seminary.

"We have moved beyond initial shock at the announcement, through days of deep concern about the impact of the decision, to the point today of wanting to register our strong objection to this action," the letter said.

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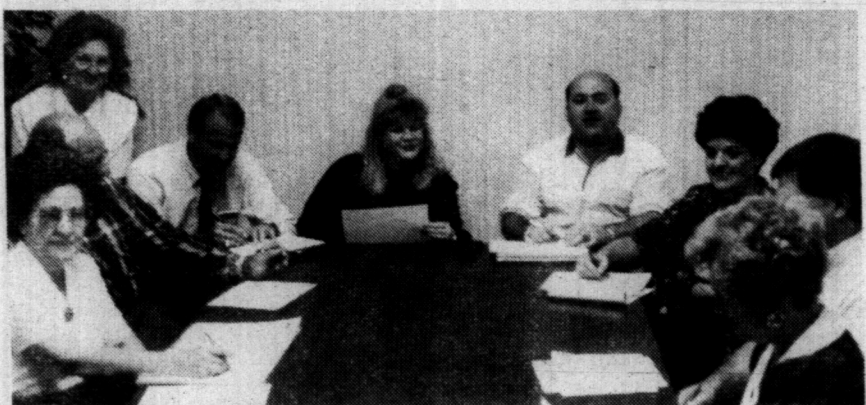
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Just for the Record



First Church, Aberdeen, recently held a GA and Acteen Recognition Service. The theme was "Challenges by Candlelight." GAs who completed Missions Adventure books are pictured (top) from left, Lindsey Jessup, Kristi Andrews, Kylie Patterson, Rachel Wright, Deana Clardy, Debbie Jean Harrington, Taylor Stone, Jana Bowen, Mary Leigh Tisdale, Sheila Neal, and Vera Patterson. Not pictured are Kelly and Nikki Peugh.

Acteens (bottom) who achieved the Queen level in Studiact are Melanie Andrews, Dana Clardy, April Owen, Shane Hawkins, Christy Darty, Kim Roebuck, Shannon Roebuck, and Cori Patterson. GA leaders are Nancy Hawkins, Jan Bowen, and Barbara Russell. Acteen leaders are Margie Couin and Linda Davis. Banks Hardy, associate pastor, delivered the sermon challenge. Bill Davis, music and education minister, provided special music. Jay Cummins is youth minister. Alan Kilgore is pastor.



Pictured are members of the steering committee for Christmas on the Circle to be held at Clarke College Dec. 2, with alternate date, Dec. 5. This committee consists of representatives from area churches who provide scenes for the event. Mrs. Marian Thornton and Mrs. Sally Hart are co-chairpersons for the event.



New Hope Church, Foxworth, recently held its yearly recognition service honoring the GAs who completed a Mission Adventure level. The girls presented a program entitled, "What in the World Is Missions?" First row, left to right, are Lindsey Slocum, Amy Lowery, Carina Evans, Mandy Stringer, and Tiffany Kroner. Second row, Kristina Yancey, Monica Pounds, Kim Lowery, Donna Alexander, Kelli Turnage, Kristen White, and Trish Keggereis. GA leaders are Tami Haney and Carolyn Riley.



Pictured are members of the Clarke College Ministerial Association for the 1991-92 school year. This organization is composed of approximately 40 members. While pursuing degrees at Clarke, these students serve churches in Mississippi and surrounding states in pulpit supply, music and youth ministry, and other church related needs. John Dent is the advisor.



Robinson Road Church, Gulfport, recently held a GA Recognition Service. Receiving awards (pictured) are Natalie Wilson — Mission Adventure 4; Abigail Williams — Mission Adventure 2; Katy Farrell — Mission Adventure 1; Julie Sullivan — Mission Adventure 1; and Ann Elizabeth Wilson — Mission Adventure 1. GA leaders are Debbie Horton and Myra Williams. Ray Wuerzer is pastor.

The William Carey College Theatre's annual play especially for children will be co-sponsored by the Hattiesburg Arts Council. The play for 1991 is "The Velveteen Rabbit," which will be presented on Nov. 21 and 22 at 7 p.m., and on Nov. 23 at 1 and 3:30 p.m. It is a contemporary adaptation by James Still of the classic story by Margery Williams. Performances will be in the O. L. Quave Theatre. Seats, which are \$2 each, may be reserved by calling 582-6221.

A note burning will be held at Oak Grove Church, Shubuta, for its \$95,000 church building, Nov. 24, at 11:45 a.m. Taking part in the ceremony are Billy Whittaker, pastor; Cecil Brock and Henry Hearn, deacons; and Leon Shirley and George Tillman, trustees.

An exhibit of pottery and photography by Stewart Fulton, candidate for the master's degree in art at Mississippi College, will run Dec. 2-18 in the Leland Speed Library. A reception will be held Dec. 2, 2-4 p.m. in the LRC lobby, to which the public is invited. Fulton, of Virginia, received his bachelor of science in biology from Tulane University.

A Christmas Candlelight Tour of the Latimer House in Clinton is planned Dec. 6, 6-8 p.m. Admission is \$1.50. Tickets can be purchased in the MC business office or at the door of the house.

The home at 401 Madison St. is owned by Mississippi College and has been completely renovated for special events, dinners, and to accommodate guests of the college.

Following the tour, the second night of the Music Department's annual Festival of Lights will begin at 8:15 p.m. in Provine Chapel. It will feature handbell ringers, the MC Naturals, Ladies Ensemble and Concert Singers, Chorale, and Chamber Choir performing major holiday works by Rutter and Pergolesi.

Harvest Day, will be held Nov. 24, at Rena Lara Church, Rena Lara. The former pastor, Leonard Russell, of Center Hills Church, Counce, Tenn., will bring the morning worship message at 11 a.m. A covered dish lunch will be served at noon in the fellowship hall. Following lunch there will be an hour of special music under the leadership of Connie Champion, Oakhurst Church, Clarksdale. John Purvis is pastor.

Mission Hill Church, Wesson, will have Harvest Day, "A Day of Thanksgiving," on Nov. 24. Services will begin with Sunday School at 10 a.m. and worship at 11 a.m. A covered dish lunch will be served in fellowship hall following morning service. Gospel singing with the Strong Hope Singers will be held at 1 p.m.

"Cardiac Rebounders," a support group organized by Mississippi Baptist Medical Center's Cardiac Rehab Department, will meet Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. Anyone who has ever been a heart patient or is the spouse of a heart patient is invited. Call 968-3090 to register or to receive more information.

Mississippi Baptist Medical Center offers a free class on "Meals Without Meat," presented by a licensed, registered dietitian, Dec. 3, from noon to 1 p.m. and from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. To register call 968-1766.

"Amazing Grace" has been recorded by more performers than any other song.

Annuity Board property and casualty changed to Preferred Risk Mutual

DALLAS — The Annuity Board has changed carriers for its property and casualty insurance program from Aetna Life and Casualty to Preferred Risk Mutual Insurance Company of Des Moines, Iowa.

Joel Mathis, senior vice president, insurance division, said the change is being made immediately in order to broaden the coverage offered and to simplify the application and underwriting process.

"The Aetna is a fine and stable company," said Mathis, "but Preferred Risk is a specialist in church protection."

"Our contract with Preferred Risk opens the plan to churches in every state, and to associations, state conventions, and selected agencies and institutions," said Mathis.

Existing policies with Aetna will not automatically be converted to Preferred Risk. As its renewal date approaches, a church will be offered the opportunity to stay with the Annuity Board's property and casualty program and convert to the new carrier, or to renew with Aetna and sever the relationship with the Annuity Board. "Of course," said Doug Day, vice president for property and casualty, "we hope all our churches will join us in the new program."

Day said any inquiry about

coverage with Preferred Risk would receive a direct agent contact within 48 hours.

The new insurer has 2,300 agents nationwide. If a church has an independent agent of choice, Preferred Risk will, in most cases, give the agent a limited contract to write the Preferred Risk policy.

A dedicated toll-free telephone service for Southern Baptist churches has been established in Des Moines, Iowa. The number is 1-800-321-5754.

"All inquiries about property and casualty and all requests for proposals are being handled by the new carrier," said Day. Churches with policies in force with Aetna do not need to do anything until contacted by the Annuity Board before renewal time.

In the event of disaster, such as a major fire, Preferred Risk promises a catastrophe team will be on site within 24 hours. The company says if an automobile claim is not addressed by an adjuster within 48 hours the deductibles are waived.

After Hurricane Hugo struck the southeastern U.S. coast, Preferred Risk adjusters were on the scene the next day. They wrote their own estimates and settled 636 claims for \$8,915,901.

Ethics center approves budget

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (ABP) — Directors of the Baptist Center for Ethics recently laid plans for the center's first conference and approved a budget and an interim executive committee for operating the three-month-old organization.

The center's first-ever conference, set for Feb. 3-4 at Immanuel Church in Nashville, will be "mainstream," said Robert Parham, the center's executive director. The theme, he said, is "Ethics in the '90s: A New Agenda."

Topics include medical care and health care, hunger, adolescent sexual

problems, genetic engineering, the environment, and sports ethics. Speakers include Bobby Bowden, head football coach for Florida State University; William Fletcher, professor at Carson-Newman College; Atlanta pastor Emmanuel McCall; and David Beckman of Bread for the World.

Several of the center's own volunteer ethics specialists, called associates, also will lead sessions. Cost for the conference will be \$95 per person, with discounts offered to students, couples, and retired persons.

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Names in the news

NOBTS announces extension schedule

NEW ORLEANS — The schedule of classes has been announced for Term III of the 1991-92 academic year at the Clinton and Newton extension centers of New Orleans Seminary.

All courses accredited for the master of divinity and master of arts in Christian education degree programs are held at Mississippi College in Clinton. Courses for the associate of divinity degree program are held at Clarke College in Newton.

Registration for master's level courses for approved students only will be at noon Monday, Jan. 20, at MC. Classes will meet Mondays, Jan. 20 through March 9.

Master's level courses offered during Term III will be "Introduction to Counseling" (1-5 p.m.), and "Introduction to Southern Baptist Missions" (6-10 p.m.).

Registration for associate's level students already approved will be 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 20.

For more information, contact the registry office, New Orleans Seminary, (504) 282-4455, ext. 3304.

Boat found in Sea of Galilee believed to be exact type of vessel used by Jesus

CHICAGO, Illinois (EP) — Five years after the discovery of a 27-foot boat believed to be the exact type used by Jesus and his disciples, the Israel Antiquities Authority has released a report of an extensive study conducted on the find.

The findings of their study were reported by Shelley Wachsmann, director of the project for the Antiquities Authority, who commented on the importance of the boat's discovery Nov. 5 in Chicago during the annual meeting of the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing.

Purely from an archaeological standpoint, the boat is not extraordinary, explained Wachsmann, because other, older boats have been excavated. The reason for scientific interest? "This is the type of boat used by Jesus," Wachsmann said. The boat is unusual because it is made of wood, which rarely survives the centuries to be studied by modern-day scientists. It is the only such boat available for study.

There are many biblical references to wooden fishing boats used on the Sea of Galilee, but none of them have ever been found, Wachsmann said. Although he and other scientists suspected that some of them might be preserved in the mud, archaeological work has been limited in the

Thursday, November 21, 1991

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

Staff changes

Mark Andrew Best, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Ray Best of Wells, Texas, is the new minister of education and youth at First Baptist Church, Hazlehurst. Best moved to Hazlehurst to begin his ministry on Oct. 15. He is a graduate of Jacksonville College, University of Texas, New Orleans Seminary, Northeast Texas Community College Paramedic Program, and attended Louisiana College.



Best

Calvary Church, Greenwood, has called Jeff Floyd of Amory as minister of education, effective Nov. 7. A native of Leflore County, he received his education at William Carey College and Southwestern Seminary. Joe May is interim pastor of Calvary.



Holcomb

East Booneville Church, Booneville, has called James "Jim" Holcomb as pastor. A native of Memphis, he received his education at New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was Greenfield Church, Greenville.

Homecomings

Fairview, Indianola: Nov. 24; services, 10 a.m.; Tom McLaughlin, former pastor, will speak at 11 a.m.; church history, music, and banner presentation; covered dish lunch in fellowship hall following.

Emmanuel, Biloxi: Dec. 1; services, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; lunch in fellowship hall; speaker will be Guy Henderson, editor of the Baptist Record, Jackson; Sid Sumrall, chairman.

New Life Fellowship (Simpson): Nov. 24; 10 a.m.; Glen Jennings, Magee, guest speaker; covered dish in fellowship hall; Clifton Williams and Mike Sellers, guest singers; Ray Mann, interim pastor, will give history of church.

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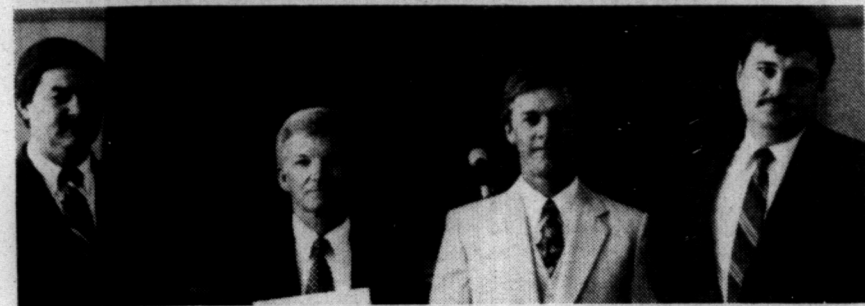
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New Prospect Church, Iuka, held a deacon ordination service Oct. 20. Pictured, left to right, are Richard Ortnier, chairman; Tommy Frederick; Jack Daniel; and Doug Christy, pastor.

Karl McGraw was inadvertently omitted from the list of ordained ministers who passed away during the last 12 months which was read during the memorial service on Tuesday evening of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. McGraw, former member of Pocahontas Church, died on May 15, 1991. He had served Mississippi Baptists for over 30 years in ministry with the Baptist Children's Village.



William B. Webb (left) was honored on his 25th anniversary as pastor of Midway Church, Meridian, in August. Webb is pictured receiving a plaque and check from Charles Wright, chairman of deacons.

Dorothy "Dot" Hull, a retired Southern Baptist missionary who worked in Tanzania and Kenya for 30 years, died of cancer Nov. 12 at her home in Arlington, Texas. She was 67. Mrs. Hull and her late husband, Jack, were appointed missionaries to Kenya in 1959 and pioneered Southern Baptist work among the Kikuyu people. While in Kenya the couple helped start 43 churches and preaching points. They also help found a Baptist high school in Nyeri, Kenya.

DE LAND, Fla. — Raymon Brothers, a retired Southern Baptist missionary who worked in Nigeria for 34 years, died of a blood disorder Nov. 6 at his home in De Land, Fla. He was 87.

Music seminars set for winter and spring

NASHVILLE — Seminars designed in specialty areas for church musicians are scheduled for winter and spring at the Sunday School Board's Church Program Training Center.

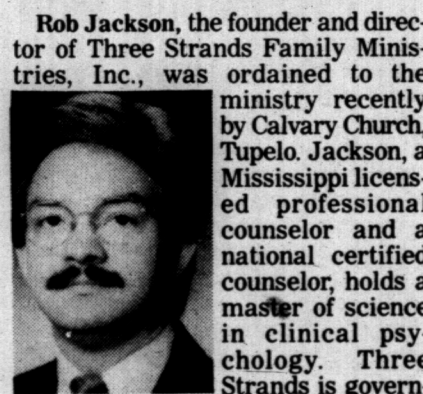
An Advanced Keyboard Seminar and a seminar on Planning the Worship of God are scheduled concurrently for Jan. 13-17. Music Leaders in the Small Church is the focus of a March 18-21 seminar.

The keyboard sessions will feature Benjamin Harlan, assistant professor of church music at New Orleans Seminary, and Michelle Dixon, associate professor of music and chairman of the arts and sciences division of Crichton College of Memphis, Tenn.

The worship planning seminar will include presentations by a variety of pastors and music ministers including Jim Burleson, minister of music at Two Rivers Church of Nashville, and

"Mr. Gibbon, Rev. Fuller and the Apocalypse," an article by Myron C. Noonkester, associate professor of history at William Carey College, has been accepted for publication by Notes and Queries. Noonkester's article, which is scheduled to appear in 1992, analyzes the use of Edward Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire to promote particular beliefs regarding the end of the world. Notes and Queries is edited at Pembroke College, Oxford and published by the Oxford University Press.

William Carey College President Jim Edwards announces the appointment of Tom Scarbrough as director of enrollment management and a member of the education faculty. Scarbrough has for 17 years been director of college and school relations at Mississippi State University. Prior to that time, he was academic dean at East Mississippi Junior College and chairman of the Music Department at that institution.



Rob Jackson, the founder and director of Three Strands Family Ministries, Inc., was ordained to the ministry recently by Calvary Church, Tupelo. Jackson, a Mississippi licensed professional counselor and a national certified counselor, holds a master of science in clinical psychology. Three Strands is governed by a board of directors and offers Christ-centered counseling on a sliding scale basis to people suffering spiritual, emotional, and behavioral conflicts. Jackson is available for seminars and supply work, and may be contacted at 1-800-439-2049 in Mississippi or (601) 844-8294.

Stephen Shoemaker and Louie Bailey, pastor and minister of music, respectively, of Crescent Hill Church of Louisville, Ky.

Included with sessions on worship planning will be music reading sessions led by Genevox Music Group, Meadowgreen Music, and Sparrow Communications Group.

Music Leaders in the Small Church will offer sessions for music directors, organists, pianists, and children's choir workers.

Registration for all three seminars may be made by sending a check or money order to Church Program Training Center, P.O. Box 24001, Nashville, Tenn., 37203. Cost of the two January seminars is \$71, and for the March seminar, \$66. For all three seminars, a spouse or associate who registers at the same time, attends the same seminar, and shares materials may attend for \$43.

Teenagers' private habits reflect church attendance

By Sarah Zimmerman

ATLANTA (BP) — Teenagers who attend church are more likely to continue to worship when they are alone and to report having a personal experience with God, a Gallup youth survey shows.

Telephone interviews with 513 youths between the ages of 13 and 17 reveal among teenagers who attended church within the last seven days, 87% pray when they are alone and 65% read the Bible when they are alone.

These figures compare with an overall statistic of 74% who pray when they are alone and 44% who read the Bible when they are alone.

The overall figure includes 42% who pray frequently plus 32% who pray occasionally. The Bible readers include 13% who read a Bible by themselves regularly and 31% who do so occasionally.

Only 9% of the teenagers said they never pray by themselves, and 26% said they have never read they Bible by themselves.

Of the youths who attended a church service in the past week, 41% reported having a personal experience with God at some time.

Overall, only 29% of the youths reported a personal encounter with God.

Past surveys have consistently reported about 95% of the nation's youths believe in God. The latest report indicates 93% of youths believe in God and believe that he loves them.

Only 2% said there is no God, or if there is one, they are not loved by him. Three percent of teens said they are not certain if God exists and if he loves them.

Zimmerman writes for HMB.

Proclaiming the gospel unto the uttermost

By Kiely D. Young
Acts 28:21-31

"I could wish . . . myself . . . accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: who are Israelites" (Romans 9:3-4). Not only was his first thought and his first activity in Rome for his fellow Jews, but he took pains to assure them of his heart's desire. Paul's life and purpose gives all Christians an encouraging example to follow as we consider our own Christian pilgrimage. He was effective because of his availability as much as because of his ability.



Young

A man of vision (Acts 28:20).

When Paul stood before Agrippa to state his defense for proclaiming the gospel message, he reminded Agrippa of his call from God on the Damascus road. In Acts 26:19, Paul stated, "I was not disobedient to this heavenly vision." Paul now proclaims in Rome also, "I am wearing this chain for the sake of the hope of Israel."

UNIFORM

When God called Paul, the burden for Israel became so great that he considered no price too high to pay for their redemption. The vision of Christ on the Damascus road may have lasted but for a moment, but the lasting impression was carried by this apostle all of his days. This brought him to Rome where he felt he could have the most impact with the gospel message.

Anybody can be an instrument in God's hands if they choose to be. But, there may come a time in our lives as it was in Paul's, he had to believe it in his heart before he could see it in his life. There must be determination in a man's heart before there can be drive in his step. Thoreau said it well, "If ever I do a man good . . . it was something exceptional and insignificant compared with the good or evil I am constantly doing by being what I am."

A man with a message (Acts 28:21-24).

Paul proclaimed the same gospel in Rome that he proclaimed everywhere he went. But in

Rome they asked him to sit down before them and explain his views, especially since "we know that everywhere it is spoken against." Paul simply responded and "expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets" (v. 23).

Several things are significant about this scene. First, even though Paul was in chains in prison, he considered this as an opportunity for the gospel rather than an obstacle to the gospel. Second, he was not taken back by the biased attitude of his listeners, rather he found a common ground to meet them. Paul's explanation came in terms they could understand and was presented with persuasion and conviction. The result "some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not" (v. 24). We must never change the essence of the message of the gospel, but we must be ever so in tune to the people to whom we speak that our methods and manners meet their needs.

A man of obedience (Acts 28:25-31).

As those listening began to disagree among themselves about Paul's message he reminded them of the words of the prophet, Isaiah:

they would hear but not understand, and see but not believe, because their hearts had become dull. This did not change the course of her determination to present the gospel. "Be it known unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it" (v. 28).

Paul was kept under house arrest for two years in Rome as he awaited further hearings, yet "he received all that came in unto him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him" (vv. 30-31).

As we see Paul in Rome, we see the church in the world. The world puts multiple chains and restrictions on the church to keep us from proclaiming the truth. But we must be bold, brave, and bond-slave only to the Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to the task of taking the gospel unto the uttermost, whether it be next door, across town, or around the world.

Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18).

Young is pastor, First, Greenville.

The Lord's Supper: the rite of commemoration

By Randy W. Turner
1 Corinthians 11:2-34

This account of the institution of the Lord's Supper is the oldest narrative of that event. It dates long before any of the gospels and as the apostle alleges was derived by him from Christ himself. It is intended to correct corruptions in the administration of the rite which must have taken some time to develop themselves.



Turner

Jesus Christ, who cared very little for rites, who came to establish a religion singularly independent of any outward form, did establish two rites: one of them to be done once in a Christian lifetime; one of them to be repeated with indefinite frequency.

The reason why these two, and only these two, external ordinances were appointed by Jesus Christ was that taken together they cover the whole ground of revealed fact and Christian experience. The rite of initiation, which is baptism, and the rite of commemoration, which is the Lord's Supper, covered well Christianity as a revelation and Christianity as a living ex-

BIBLE BOOK

perience. Look with me at three aspects of the Lord's Supper.

I. The Lord's Supper as memorial. "Do this in remembrance of me," is a very famous line from the Scripture referring to communion. The words may better be translated, "Do this for the remembering of me." The former expression seems to say, "Do this because you remember." The real meaning seems to be, "Do this in case you forget" or "so that you will never forget." Recall to memory what you may be so apt to lose, the impression of even the sweetness of the most loving and self-abnegating sacrifice which he offered for us.

In these words are the appeal of the friend who wished, as we all do, not to be utterly forgotten by those whom he cared for and loved. He wished this not only because their remembrance was their salvation but because their forgetfulness pained his human heart. It seems to be that plaintive appeal: "Do not forget me when I am gone away from you. Even if you have no better way of remembering me, take these poor symbols to which I am not too proud to entrust the care of my memory and do this lest you forget me."

We also should remember the connection with the ancient Passover and its connection with the new covenant. All of this points to the significance in his eyes of his death as a sacrifice for the world's sin.

II. The Lord's Supper as symbol. The Christ who died is the Christ who lives and we as Christians must live in him and feast upon him. The Christian life is not merely the remembrance of a historical Christ but is the present participation in a living Christ. He is near each of us that we may make him the very food of our spirits. We are to live upon him. He is to be incorporated within us by our own act. This is not mysticism. It is a piece of simple reality. There is no Christian life without it. The true life of the believer is the feeding of our souls upon him; our minds accepting, meditating upon, digesting the truths which are incarnate in Jesus; our hearts feeding upon the love which is to tender, warm, condescending and close; our wills feeding upon and nourished by the utterance of his will in commandments which to know is joy and to keep is liberty; our hopes feeding upon him who is our hope. The broken body, the shed blood symbolize all of this.

We must not only nourish our spirits upon the fact that he was incarnate for our salvation but

also on the truth that he was crucified for our acceptance with God. Once again it should be emphasized that Christ who died is the Christ who lives. He died to pay for our sins. He was buried to put away our sins. He was resurrected to give us power over our sins. What about the hunger in our souls? Where is it satisfied, with the swine's husks or with the Bread of God which came down from heaven?

III. The Lord's Supper as prophecy. In the original words of the institution our Lord himself makes reference to the future: "Till I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." In the context here the apostle provides for the perpetual continuance and emphasizes the prophetic aspect of the ritual by that word "till he come." His death necessarily implies his coming. The cross and the throne are linked together by an indissoluble bond. Being what it is, the death cannot be the end. Being what he is, if he has once been offered to bear the sins of many, so he must come the second time.

May the Lord's Supper always cause us to remember. May it be a symbol of our inmost life and the prophecy of the heaven to which we all shall come.

"The Lord of hosts be with us yet; lest we forget, lest we forget." — Rudyard Kipling

Turner is pastor, Parkway Church, Natchez.

Moses instructs Israel to beware of false prophets

By Don Dobson

Deuteronomy 13:1-4; 18:18-22

Following an evening worship service at our church, I was invited to join our young people downstairs in the fellowship hall. They had plans to watch the Atlanta Braves play the final games of the World Series. I told them thanks, but I had previous plans. Besides, the Braves, I assured them would win anyway. Of course, they lost as we all know. My "prophecy" was wrong. My youth group now refers to their pastor as the "false prophet." All in fun, to be sure.



Dobson

However, it is not all in fun when false teachings are being presented with seriousness to unsuspecting people. In this week's lesson, Moses instructs the nation of Israel to beware of those that preach unsound doctrine.

As believers today, we are to heed teachings that are from God and reject those that are not.

I. Beware of empty promises (13:1-3).

We are bombarded by people that promise us the moon and then fail to deliver. All of us have had our share of experiences dealing with products that were less than what they promised.

Moses said that false prophets would attempt to lead us away by enticements. He stressed to Israel that even if the promises and enticements appeared real and valid, they were still nothing but empty shells.

LIFE AND WORK

Today, you and I would do well to hold on to the pure teachings of the Word of God. Many preach and teach today that all you have to do is accept certain doctrines and proofs and your life will be wonderfully transformed. As we hear this expounded, be sure to search God's promise and do your homework as the Spirit leads.

II. A command (13:4).

When we are confronted by teachings that are not from God, we are to follow God's leadership and obey his commands. We, just as Israel had, have a command to revere God and to heed his voice.

An old R.C.A. trademark pictures a dog listening to a phonograph. The caption reads, "He hears his master's voice." The dog not only hears the voice, he also recognizes it. When the false teachers come, and they will, we must be able to hear and recognize the voice of God. The voice commands us to stay in step with the soundness of scriptural doctrine and mandates.

III. A responsibility (18:18).

As a Christian minister called to proclaim, it is my duty and responsibility to faithfully pass on what God has revealed. This responsibility is intensified due to the various false teachings that have been promulgated across the centuries. All servants of God have the

responsibility to tell what has been revealed to them by the hand of God through study, prayer, preparation, and insight. This responsibility is to be honorably executed.

IV. A judgment (18:20).

The death penalty for false prophets indicated the seriousness of the dangers posed by false teachings. The primary concern for us today focuses on responding rightly to true and false teachings, not on the best way to deal with false teachers. God will handle them, we are to be sure of what we believe.

V. A test (18:21-22).

Tests can be very beneficial. My fourth grade

daughter would no doubt argue with me concerning this point. Moses said if you want to recognize a false prophet, watch the results of his prophesying. God's test is simply a matter of the prophecy coming to pass.

When I was a student in school, I used to dread the true or false section of an exam. The questions seemed to be too close to call. As we go out into God's world, we will encounter doctrines and techniques that seem okay. However, test them closely with the leading of God's Spirit.

Dobson is pastor, Collins Church, Collins.

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BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (EHC) — Nightly audiences of 70,000,000 people in 20 Latin American nations were expected to hear Billy Graham present the gospel via satellite broadcast from River Plate Stadium in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Nov. 13-17. River Plate Stadium has seating and standing-room capacity for another 100,000 people nightly in Buenos Aires. In an effort to multiply the impact of the crusade in Argentina, Every Home for Christ mobilized 60,000 Christian volunteers to systematically hand-deliver 4 million gospel booklets to homes in 224 cities where remote broadcasts of the River Plate Stadium crusade was aired. The booklets contain a presentation of the gospel and an invitation to view the satellite broadcast of Graham's crusade. EHC has been working with churches in Argentina to systematically distribute gospel booklets to every family in the nation since 1961.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



The Baptist Children's Village

Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

P. O. Box 27,
Clinton, MS 39060-0027
(601) 922-2242

ACCREDITED



Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

MEMORIALS

**Sept. 1, 1991 -
Sept. 30, 1991**

Mrs. Lois Hutto
Mr. & Mrs. Roger B. Johnson
Mrs. Lillian Idom
Stanton Baptist Church
Mr. Hugh Walker Ivy Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Don O. Baker
Mr. & Mrs. Garth Ingram
Mrs. Thad A. Jones
Mrs. W. E. Campbell
Mr. & Mrs. Dick Catledge
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn E. Crowe
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Newton
Mr. & Mrs. David Furr
Mrs. Marie Hall
Mrs. James A. Harvey
Mrs. Rose T. Jackson
Mrs. E. C. Shackelford
Mrs. Adrene B. Hollingsworth
Mrs. Edwin T. Spivey Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Treadway
Mr. & Mrs. Don R. Baker
Mrs. Ernest A. Curry Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Pat D. Brooks
Mrs. John Hammett
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Hollingsworth
Mrs. Nettie Scruggs
Mr. Edward Shackelford
Vallie Jenkins
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Gowan & Family
Mrs. Leila Johnston
Mr. & Mrs. Fred H. Blackledge
Mary Margaret & Adair Blackledge
Ella C. Jones
Miss Annie Louise Coats
Mr. Dave Jones
Mrs. Jane P. Ireland
Mrs. Jones
Mr. Herbert Stanley
Mrs. Ozelle Smith Jones
Ms. Katherine T. Collins
Mr. & Mrs. Archie D. Harmon
Dr. & Mrs. Lewis G. Sewell
Mr. Hugh Kersh
Mr. & Mrs. Lamar Arthur
Mr. & Mrs. Walter S. Jordan
Dr. & Mrs. E. R. Pinson
Mr. Tim Kidd
Mr. & Mrs. David Denson
Mrs. Laura M. Kyzar
Adult Ladies SS, Pleasant Hill BC
Mr. M. B. Lacey
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Joe Williams
Ted Lambert
J. W. & Jack Bowman
Guy Nell Speights
Mr. Cooper Lay
Ms. Ernestine S. Heflin
Mr. Curtis B. Lea, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ziek
Jewel Lee
Mr. & Mrs. William Strait & Family
Mrs. Gladys Lehman
Mary Martha SS, FBC
Crystal Springs
Mr. Clyde Lewis
Mars Hill Baptist Church
Mrs. Gladys Lindsey
Mr. & Mrs. David Denson
Mr. W. H. Little
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Mardis
Mr. Miron Mabry
Mr. & Mrs. Pete James
Mr. Doug Magers
Mrs. Jane P. Ireland
Mrs. Lucille Magness
Mr. & Mrs. David Doss
Grace Maisenhelder
Mr. & Mrs. Don O. Baker

Mr. Joe Marinelli
Rev. & Mrs. Joe Young
Ella T. Massey
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Watkins
Mrs. Sam Mauldin, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Stephenson
Mrs. Hildred McBrayer
Mrs. Cecil Boswell
Christine McClure
The Charles K. Nick Family
Mrs. Bina Jordan McCormick
Mr. & Mrs. James Coward Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Criss
Mrs. G. F. McCormick
Mr. & Mrs. C. N. Raspberry
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry McCulley
Mrs. Frances Bryant
Mrs. Ricky McFarling
Sara Linton
Rev. Karl K. McGraw
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Thomas
Willing Workers SS
Pocahontas BC
Mr. Melvin McLendon
Mr. & Mrs. W. T. Beasley
Mr. R. L. McMillan
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Hasselman
Mr. Gene McMullan
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm W. Heard
Mrs. Rozelle Meadow
Mrs. Jane P. Ireland
Lynda Dycus Meeks
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Pentecost
Mrs. Katherine M. Melton
Business Men's Class, FBC
Jackson
Miss Martha Stone Tucker
Mr. Vann C. Michaels
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Thomas
Mrs. Erin Middleton
Mr. & Mrs. W. D. Beach
Mr. & Mrs. David Gilmore
Mr. Thad B. Lampton Jr.
Mrs. Lem Pittman
Mr. & Mrs. Garland Upton
Mrs. Curtis L. Johnson
Lawrence Middleton
Mr. & Mrs. F. R. Clark
Elbert H. Mitchell
Ms. Barbara Bardwell
Mr. H. E. Mitchell
Adult Couples SS, Bethany BC
Mr. Hugh Mitchell
Ladies 1 SS, Bethany BC,
Calhoun Ct.
W. T. Mitchell
Mr. & Mrs. O. L. Welsh
Nelda Moak
Mrs. Connley D. Moak
Rena Mooney
Ora Baptist Church
Mr. & Mrs. Glen Cross
Hilton Morgan
Friends of Hebron Baptist Church
Mr. Dave Morgan
Mr. & Mrs. F. C. Hobgood
Mr. Earl Morris
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Cubley
Mr. J. T. (Buddy) Morris
Mrs. T. M. Hederman Jr.
Mr. E. C. Neely
Mr. & Mrs. Hayes Branscome
Mark Nixon
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Thomas
Mrs. Joyce Odom
Ruth SS, Juniper Grove BC
Loretta Sue Ogg
Mrs. Hilda R. McEwen
Francis Olive
Ms. Mildred H. Dishongh
Mrs. Jennie Lynn Ouzts
Mrs. Sue E. Harris & Family
Father of Mr. Gary Owens
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Thomas

Juanita K. Pahnka
Miss Lucile Price
Mrs. T. E. Taylor
Mrs. Libby Parrott
Mrs. Jane P. Ireland
Mr. L. B. Pate, Jr.
Mrs. Ann M. O'Hare
Mr. Sam Pendergrass
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Thomas
Mrs. Ralph Perkins
Women's Club in Calhoun City
Mr. C. K. Pinkerton
Mars Hill Baptist Church
Alonzo Pittman
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Great-Grandmother of Chuck Pour
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph A. Rollins
Mr. V. O. Powell
Mrs. Sam Fletcher
Mrs. Louetta Powell
Mr. & Mrs. David Denson
Rose Prewitt
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Broadway
Mrs. Hattie Purris
Stanton Baptist Church
Mrs. Ervie Ray
Mr. & Mrs. John L. Young
Martha Reader
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Gullidge
John Reeves
Crosby Baptist Church
Mr. C. B. Reid
Mrs. W. D. Ramsey
Mrs. Elmo Mackey Reynolds
Mrs. Ann M. O'Hare
Ethelene Holt Rich
Mr. & Mrs. C. W. Makamson
Mr. Everett C. Richards
Nettie Scruggs
Alex Watkins
Theodore Rives
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Weems
Mr. Earle Rochester
Agnes Pickett
Mr. & Mrs. R. D. Thornton
Harvey N. Rouse
Mr. & Mrs. Dolan Fleming
Mrs. Mozelle Ruffin
B. C. Junkin Family
Mrs. Maebell Sandifer
Mr. & Mrs. A. Emmett Wilson
Mr. Charlie M. Sauls
Stanton Baptist Church
Ray W. Schmidt
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald D. Beard
Mr. Bernard Schwing
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Simmons
Mr. Alvin Scott
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Cubley
Mrs. Dolly Serio
Mrs. Jane P. Ireland
Mr. Harold K. (Hal) Shook
Dr. & Mrs. T. W. Rankin
Mr. & Mrs. L. E. Brooks
Mr. Al Showruck
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Thomas
Mr. M. D. Shows
Mr. & Mrs. Reese Snell
Vadie Simpson
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Mr. Ernest Sinclair
Mr. & Mrs. Danny E. Hamilton
Dave Smith
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Thompson Jr.
Howard Lee Smith
Mr. & Mrs. B. A. Anders
Mr. Dave Smith
Fellowship SS FBC Batesville
Mr. Grover Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Wilson
Mrs. Corinne Smith
Mrs. W. E. Owen
Lucille Somers
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Cubley

Mr. Joe Spinosa
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Rice
Mr. John W. (Dub) Sproles
Mr. & Mrs. Earl C. Yates
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen J. Smith
Mrs. Luther R. Adams
James Elmer Stampley
Mrs. G. L. Williams
John Eddie Stamps
Goss Baptist Church
Mrs. Beuna V. Staten
Mr. & Mrs. George H. Spier
Cascilla Baptist Church
Mr. & Mrs. Pate E. Brown Jr.
Hattie Wolfe SS, Cascilla BC
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Young
Cleo Steen
Mrs. Geraldine Gray
Mrs. Lucille Stewart
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Weatherly
Mrs. Norma Jane Brock
Father of Dr. Ken Stringer
Ora Baptist Church
Mr. Hollie Stringer
Mr. & Mrs. Clifton Mobley
Mrs. John Strong
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Liddell
Mr. Irvin Sumrall
Country Creek Ministry
Mr. Lee Tassin
Mr. & Mrs. Dewey Sanford
Mrs. Marie Tate
Mrs. Jane P. Ireland
Leon Taylor
Mrs. J. O. Sanders
Mr. Dewey Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Peter P. Buescher
Mrs. Eloyce Temple
Ms. Ann Lott Denton
First Baptist Church, Bude
Mary Lou Lott
Middle Adult SS, Meadville BC
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Tyson & Family
Benjamin Ryan Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Billy W. Breithaupt
Mr. E. G. Thomason
Ms. Jerrie S. Cheatham
Helen Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. Truitt Phillips
Mr. Bernard Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Cliburn & Family
Reverend Tuck
Mr. & Mrs. Fred H. Blackledge
Mary Margaret & Adair Blackledge
Father of Dr. James E. Turner
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Thomas
Odell Ulmer
Mr. Earle Richard
Mr. M. J. Upchurch
Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Davis
Thomas L. Vance
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Peebles
Mrs. Lil Van Wagner
Mars Hill BC
Mrs. Frances Wallace
Ms. Sallie S. Hutto
Frances Moore Warren
Mrs. William E. O'Hare
Mrs. Christine Webb
Children 6 SS, State
Boulevard BC
Mrs. Cammie Weeks
Mrs. William E. O'Hare
Smith E. Welch
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Hancock & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Moss & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Conan F. Whitten
Mr. Lewis Wells
Mars Hill BC
Mr. Gordon White
Mr. Raymond Keith
Mr. Marc McArthur
Mrs. Tara Powell Whitehead
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth W. Statham
Mr. Richard Whitfield
Sara Linton
Mrs. W. W. Brunson
Mr. & Mrs. W. M. Hilbun, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lang
Mr. & Mrs. Prentice C. Renshaw
Miss Margaret Williams
Toni Myers Circle, Sumner BC
Mrs. Frank Williams Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Rice
Mrs. Clara Williams
Miss India Ware
Ruth Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Broadway
Evin Michael Winstead
Mr. & Mrs. Hays Stewart Sr.
Mrs. Evon Austin
Mr. & Mrs. L. C. Ellis
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Rosamond & Family
Mrs. Irene Wood
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Harmon

Mr. Jim Woodard
Red One Rook Club
Mr. David Woodward
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth W. Statham
Billy Joe Wright
Mrs. Lorena D. Griffin
Bob & Joe Griffin
Mr. Freddie Wright
Mrs. Lorena D. Griffin
Bob & Joe Griffin
Mr. & Mrs. Hays Stewart Sr.

**Oct. 1, 1991 -
Oct. 31, 1991**

Mrs. (W. B.) Carrie Spencer
Abel
Mrs. Cecil Boswell
Mrs. F. M. Caperton
Mrs. William H. Hight
John T. Christian SS, Collins BC
Mrs. Katie Kemp
Mr. & Mrs. Troy L. McKey III
Mrs. Mae G. Moon
Mr. & Mrs. Arnold A. Reed
Ms. Alice Stewart
Ms. Ruby C. Yarbrough
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hills
Mrs. David Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Hosea Kemp
Mrs. Gayle Cayce
Rev. & Mrs. William F. Evans
Mrs. Gracye Dell Gilbert
Mrs. Ada Mae Hickman
Mrs. Claudine M. Stevens
Mrs. Lula Bell Adair
Mrs. Rubenia S. Hardin
Mr. Lee B. Agnew
Mrs. Charles Hooker
Mr. A. Allio
Mrs. C. F. Hollingsworth
Mrs. Rosa Anthony
Mrs. Patricia R. Bell
Lab. Employees, Grenada
Lake Medical Center
Nicole Arnold
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Carter
Shelby Nicole Arnold
Mrs. Annie Ruth Corley
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Smith
Mrs. Guy (Katie) Bailey, Sr.
Officers & Directors, Trustmark National Bank
Mr. Dewey Barton
Mrs. C. V. Dyess
Bill Bassett
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Faulkner
Mr. Robert Beck
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Simmons
Mrs. Jean Tillman Bell
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Carroll & Family
Mr. Joe Bennett
Yale Street Baptist Church
Ethel Betts
Mrs. Joetta Tillman
Mrs. Mary Irene Boa
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Pajerski
Mr. Vernon H. Boykin
Mrs. C. A. Hardin
Mrs. Marie Hall
Mr. Emmett Boyles, Jr.
Mrs. C. F. Hollingsworth
Ann Dickerson Bradberry
Mrs. Ann M. O'Hare
Mr. Jim Breland, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Mack D. Johnson
Mr. William Bright
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Skelton
Cody Benjamin Brooks
Mr. & Mrs. W. H. Corhern
Elliott Brooks
Ora Baptist Church
Will Brooks
Mrs. Joetta Tillman
Mrs. Jessie Brown
Mr. & Mrs. J. U. Hendrix
Mrs. Mildred Bullock
Mrs. Joe K. Moore Sr.
Mr. Chalmers Burke
The Tommy Hancock Family
Arden Burnett
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Faulkner
Dorothy Busby
Mrs. Edna Earle Coats
Mrs. Bennie F. Bush
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Chittom
Mrs. Miller Bush
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Carter
Men Friendship SS, North
Greenwood BC
Mr. & Mrs. G. E. Turner
Mrs. Simon Turner
Mr. H. H. Butler
Mr. & Mrs. Brooks E. Patterson
Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Thomas



Billy Royston, a junior at Clinton High School made the HONOR ROLL for the first nine weeks. Billy was also selected as the Kiwanis Club PLAYER OF THE WEEK for his play on the offensive line in the Arrow's victory against Murrah High School on October 18. We, the Staff of The Baptist Children's Village congratulate Billy for both of his achievements.

Mr. A. L. Caples
Mr. & Mrs. Louis E. Fancher Jr.
Mrs. Bobbye Caraway
Mr. & Mrs. John L. Young
Mr. Albert S. Carl
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Skelton
Mrs. Bobbye Caraway
Mr. & Mrs. David Denson
M. F. "Bud" Carter
Mr. & Mrs. R. G. Brock
Mrs. Lucy Cauthen
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Coats & Christopher
Mrs. Jimmie Cavness
Ms. LaDeane R. Dowdle
Mr. Dewitt Chance
Mr. W. E. Walker Jr.
Neighbors, Church Street, Columbia
Mr. Ernest Chappell
Reapers SS, Midway BC, Jackson
Mr. Knox W. Ross
Dr. Hubert C. Clark, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Hayes Branscome
Mr. & Mrs. Rich Defenbaugh
Ms. Mary Jo Clatt
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm W. Heard
Mrs. Thelma Sanders Cliburn
Mrs. Mera C. Hall
Mrs. C. L. Cockerham
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Mabry Sr.
Mr. Eli Craig Coil
Ms. Amy C. Beard
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Lingle
Mr. & Mrs. Truman Manning
Mr. & Mrs. Hamilton Pierce
Mr. & Mrs. Homer Williamham
Mr. Bob Colbert
Forest Baptist Church
Honorable J. P. Coleman
Mr. & Mrs. Frank H. Jones
Mrs. Lois Buck Cooper
Mrs. Earl B. Allen
Mr. & Mrs. C. M. Mitchell
Mr. Joe Corbett
Mr. H. M. Austin Jr.
Mr. Walter E. Barbee
Mrs. Elizabeth Gunter Cox
Billie Bryan
Mr. Walter Alford
Directors & Officers, Bell South Telecommunications
Mr. & Mrs. Roy B. Howard
Mr. Raymond L. McGuire
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Owen
Miss Dorothy Johnson
Mr. Horace Creel
Mr. & Mrs. Owen D. Jones
Mr. & Mrs. W. F. Perry & Jana
Mrs. Lillian Crump
Mr. & Mrs. Alton L. Fields
Don Fields

(To be continued)

HONORS

Mrs. O. D. (Lillimae) Brannon
Mr. & Mrs. Neil H. McKenzie
Mrs. Lucille Brister
Alathan SS, Collins BC
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Busby
Dr. & Mrs. Eugene I. Farr
Mrs. W. R. (Ruth Evelyn) Glove
Mr. & Mrs. Neil H. McKenzie
Mrs. Jean Horn
Mr. & Mrs. Walter B. Moore
Mr. K. R. (Pete) Miller
Mrs. Thomas Fite Paine
Florence Puls
Mr. & Mrs. Taylor Meals & Family
Rev. Curtis Roland
Mrs. Barbara Black
Rev. Billy Simmons
Progress Ladies SS, FBC
McComb
Rev. Paul Smith
Mrs. Barbara Black
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Sumrall
Mr. & Mrs. Fred D. Evans Jr.
Rev. & Mrs. Tom Sumrall
Mrs. Troy Hardy
Rev. A. R. Vaughn
Mrs. Barbara Black



W. W. Walley, newly-elected president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, was interviewed at First Church, Jackson, by Mississippi News Tonight. He was elected after a run-off between himself and Gary Berry, pastor of Temple Church, Hattiesburg. Walley is a medical doctor and layman from Waynesboro.

Writing on Holy Spirit changed author's life

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — Esther Burroughs never dreamed of shopping through the Bible for clothing. But she, and others, have been intrigued and empowered by the "wardrobe" they found there, she said recently.

Burroughs is the national evangelism consultant with women for the Home Mission Board.

While participating in a study of Judges 6 a couple of years ago, Burroughs heard Avery Willis, a manager in the discipleship training section of the Sunday School Board, read a verse that struck a nerve in her.

"When he read 'The Spirit of God came upon Gideon,' it jumped off the page to me," Burroughs said. "The margin of my Bible said 'clothed Gideon.' When I got home, I studied further and realized all through the Old Testament it talks about the Spirit of

God coming upon or clothing individuals."

Burroughs realized clothing individuals with the Holy Spirit was exactly what happened at Pentecost.

"The Spirit of God empowered them to do more than they ever thought or imagined," she said.

Little did Burroughs know then God was preparing and empowering her for a task ahead, she said.

Burroughs soon was asked by Woman's Missionary Union to write the theme book WMU members would use during the 1990-91 church year. The subject was the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

The theme book, "Empowered!" is now in its fourth printing and has sold more than 40,000 copies. It is one of the highest-selling books WMU ever has produced for general church audiences.

A penitent publican

By Jack Winscott

Luke 18:9-14

The Pharisee had super self-esteem! He carried it to the level of spiritual superiority attitudes. By comparing himself to the publican, he saw himself as worthy of and deserving God's blessings.



Winscott

And even his perspective on prayer life was off center. His prayer sounds like a job resume — listing his attributes, accomplishments, and achievements; his "best" side.

But not so the publican. He saw himself as a sinner needing God's forgiving mercy and grace. God was his superior — his comparison and focus. Others' sins were not in his line of vision or prayer.

He knew he didn't deserve forgiveness, but he knew God as a God of love and wanting to forgive him when he confessed.

Maybe we don't have a problem looking down on people, but most all of us have a problem looking down on those who look down on others. And we feel superior, and better and more deserving of God's blessings.

The contrast in attitudes here is skillfully pictured through their posture. The Pharisee "stood up and prayed about himself."

The publican "stood at a distance . . . not even looking up to heaven but beat on his breast."

True gratitude to God is not mindful of our status, worth, esteem, or how superior we may think we are. We must sound like a pond's self-comparison to a raindrop, never seeing an ocean!

True gratitude is centered in personal relationships rather than personal possessions. We should be grateful for the things — but ever so much more grateful that God loves us and has a purpose for us and he has provided for our everlasting home with him.

Let's be profoundly grateful that we are the object of his love and plan, and he wants to forgive us today and live and love through us.

Our sense of personal esteem should be centered in God's love for us and his individual purpose for every single one of us! Humbled by that attitude one day we will be "exalted" — lifted to live with him forever more.

Winscott is pastor, Prentiss Church, Prentiss.

Mississippi missionaries in France minister at church on Loire River

By Florence Frederick

A community of believers at Laval, France committed themselves Oct. 20, 1991, to pray and work together as a church. French pastor Delepine and his wife had been going to this city of 50,000 people for almost a year when Southern Baptist missionaries Wayne and Florence Frederick arrived to spend a year with the Delepines helping in their ministry at Angers and Laval. The Fredericks and Delepines live in Angers where Bernard Delepine started the Angers Church 11 years ago.

The arrival of the Fredericks made possible worship services every Sunday. After a fellowship meal following the morning services, Pastor Delepine gave an appeal for those who would commit themselves to pray and support the church. Besides the Fredericks there were two who responded. One of those is a young man, a high school math teacher, who is excited about using his natural talents and spiritual gifts for the Christ.

The Laval church has at its disposal a four story building legated to the French Baptist Federation. The Delepines and other members of the Angers Church renovated the bottom floor and began worship services in October 1990. Between four and 13 attended Sunday services and there are about four from Laval who attend Friday night prayer service.

The congregation and leaders pray earnestly for the moving of the Holy Spirit in this small city. The Delepines, Fredericks, and a third French couple take turns going to Laval. Laval is predominantly Catholic in religion and the large cathedrals of the area are better filled than in the rest of France.

Laval is located in the beautiful and famous Loire River valley, known for its chateaux or fortified castles. The chateau of Laval, on which construction began in the tenth century, is located only a stone's throw from the church which is situated in the "old city." The narrow, cobblestoned streets

wind up and down hills and make a charming setting for this church. The congregation has the use of the two bottom floors of their building.

March 22-29 there will be a team from the USA to do evangelization in the city as part of an effort coordinated by the Foreign Mission Board and French Baptists to evangelize about 30 cities. When the Fredericks, who are Mississippians, and former missionaries to Guadeloupe, finish their year of culture studies and team ministry, they will move to Laval for the development of the church. Be a part of Southern Baptist witness to France with your intercessory prayers and mission giving.

Wayne and Florence were appointed to Guadeloupe, French West Indies in December 1969 and spent 16½ years there. After five years in the States they were reappointed to France in December 1990. (Their stateside home is Guntown, Miss.)

Washington, Mississippi reject euthanasia, abortion

OLYMPIA, Wash. (EP) — Two initiatives in the state of Washington which dealt with sanctity of life issues have apparently been defeated — one which would legalize euthanasia, and one which would mandate abortion on demand.

Wanda Franz, president of the National Right to Life Committee, the nation's largest pro-life group, was pleased with the Washington votes. "These votes send an important message to lawmakers around the country that the American public rejects the extremism of abortion on demand and legalized euthanasia. The kind of extremism displayed by the pro-death forces in the state of Washington shows how out of touch with reality they are."

The NRLC reported that pro-life activists and candidates won solid gains across the country in the Nov. 5 elections, including a dramatic victory in the Mississippi governor's race and a

number of state legislative races.

Pro-life Republican Kirk Fordice defeated incumbent pro-abortion Governor Ray Mabus in Mississippi. Voters in Mississippi also retained solid pro-life majorities in both the state Senate and House.

"Pro-life voters sent a message to Ray Mabus: if you veto pro-life legislation we will veto your re-election," said Sandy Ellard, president of Mississippi Right to Life, which distributed more than 250,000 pieces of literature before the election. "Our people really turned out to vote, and we know we were able to swing some of the counties that Kirk Fordice needed to win." Fordice is the first Republican governor of Mississippi since Reconstruction.

The defeat of Mabus marks the second time this year that a governor who vetoed pro-life legislation was soundly defeated. In Louisiana last

month, Governor Buddy Roemer lost a bid for re-election after vetoing three pro-life bills in two years. Roemer had professed to be pro-life, and the NRLC considers his flip-flop to be one of the key elements in his defeat.

In Virginia pro-life candidates captured a number of key races for the House of Delegates, and pro-life gains were also made in the Virginia state Senate. The Washington Post reported, "Abortion . . . didn't appear to help Democrats much . . . despite their best efforts to make support of abortion rights an asset. Several Republicans who support various restrictions on abortion were elected."

1791 — There were in the United States at this time about 750 Baptist churches with approximately 62,000 members served by nearly 600 ministers aided by lay leaders.



This won't hurt much

Frank Bishop, pastor of Mission Church, Winona, accompanied by his wife, sat for a blood pressure check Tuesday evening of the convention. A health fair was set up in the lobby of the Baptist Building by Mississippi College student nurses, and provided free health screenings.

Baptist Record
 005-DTM 291 11-21
 SOUTHERN BAPT HISTORICAL SO 00
 901 COMMERCE ST SUITE 401
 NASHVILLE TN 37203
 Nov 21, 1991